



UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

RECENT UNIVERSITY ARCHITECTURE IN THE UNITED STATES.

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Read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, Monday, 20th May 1912.

IT would be impossible for me to express in any adequate fashion my deep appreciation of the honour you do me in asking me to supplement, in some small degree, the penetrating and comprehensive Paper Mr. Warren already has read before you,* with a consideration and a showing of that other collegiate architecture over-seas which, as he so justly says, is in its impulse and its achievement a natural continuation of British tradition. We have in America, as you in your Colonies, the residential college—the early, the perfect, the indestructible type—elsewhere abandoned, and with great loss in respect to those results in character-building (and therefore national civilisation), for which no intensive scholarship can ever make amends. The foundations of sane and sound and wholesome society are neither industrial supremacy, nor world-wide trade, nor hoarded wealth; they are personal honour, clean living, fearlessness in action, self-reliance, generosity of impulse, good-fellowship, obedience to law, reverence and the fear of God—all those elements which are implied in the word “Character,” which is the end of education and which is the proudest product of the old English residential college, and of the old English educational idea that brought it into being, maintained it for centuries, and holds it now a bulwark against the tides of anarchy and materialism that threaten the very endurance of civilisation itself.

From time to time we have yielded more or less to novel impulses, coquetting with that questionable lady sometimes known as the Spirit of the Age, accepting even her insidious doctrine that after all the object of education is not the building of character, but the breeding of intensive specialists, or the turning of a boy at the earliest possible moment into a wage-earning animal. We still hold to the damnable opinion that education may be divorced from religion, and ethics inculcated apart from a dogmatic religious faith: and, having sown the

* “Collegiate Architecture,” by Edward Warren, F.S.A. (JOURNAL R.I.B.A., 24th Feb. 1912).

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wind of an insane secularism, we are reaping the whirlwind of civic corruption and industrial anarchy. I do not mean to say that we were alone in our error: you yourselves know that across narrower seas than the Atlantic the same is true, and in greater degree; while even here, in these narrow islands that so often have been the last refuge and stronghold of Christian civilisation, I have heard strange rumours of those who would sacrifice Latin and Greek and the humanities to applied science and vocational training; who would drive the very name of religion from the schools; who would, in the ringing words of an eminent French statesman, "put out the lights in heaven," and, to quote Karl Marx, "destroy the idea of God which is the keystone of a perverted civilisation." We have, I think, rather got beyond taking this sort of thing seriously, and I doubt if you ever will do so even for a moment, for when we stop doing things long enough to think, we all realise that, as the Dean of St. Paul's has recently said, "The real test of progress is the kind of people that a country turns out," and the product of secularised and intensive education is not of a quality that develops a sense either of covetousness or emulation in sane and healthy minds.

So, in spite of our backing and filling, we are, I think, in America well beyond the turn of the tide. I myself have seen it at its flood, and I have seen the ebb again. It is not so long ago that our ideal seemed to be a kind of so-called education that might be labelled "Made in Germany": we prescribed nothing, and accepted anything a freshman in his wisdom might elect; we joined schools of dental surgery and "business science" (whatever that may be) and journalism and farriery to our august universities; we ignored Greek and smiled at Latin; we tried to teach theology on an undogmatic basis (an idea not without humour); and we cut out religious worship altogether. It was all evanescent, however; now the "free electives" are passing, even at Harvard where they began and ran full riot; at Princeton the preceptorial system has been restored, and is coming elsewhere; there, also, a great college chapel is contemplated; while at the University of Chicago one is about to be built at a cost of some £300,000. Everywhere residential quads are coming into existence: one ancient college—Amherst—is considering the abandonment of all its scientific schools and falling back on the sound old classical basis, while lately our own American Institute of Architects has endorsed the principle that our schools of architecture should grant degrees only to those reasonably proficient in Latin.

And so we return step by step to the old ideals and sound methods of English colleges, return to the mother that bore us, just as we return year after year to our old home for refreshment and inspiration; return even in a wider sense to those eternally battered but eternally enduring principles in life and thought and aspiration which make up the great Anglo-Saxon heritage of which we proudly claim to be joint heirs with yourselves. And in this return we find ourselves recurring once more to the very forms of the architecture—or rather, we hope, to its underlying spirit—through which this great tradition has manifested itself. In our earliest days we followed, as closely as we could, the work going on at home; then we yielded to our new nationality and wandered off after strange gods—some of them very strange indeed—expressing our experiments in experimental styles, until the last shadow of a memory of England seemed wholly gone, and then, as the last flicker died, behold a new restoration, for with the reaction towards a broader culture comes the return to the architecture of Eton and Winchester, Oxford and Cambridge, that so fully expressed that very culture itself.

Consider for a moment and you will see that no other course was possible: not because the XVth and XVIth and early XVIIth century collegiate architecture of England is the most perfect style ever devised by man to this particular end. It is this, of course; but the real reason for our return lies deeper, and it is simply that it is the only style that absolutely expresses our new-old, crescent ideals of an education that makes for culture and makes for

character. I myself have been coming back to Oxford and Cambridge year after year now for a full generation, others for even longer terms, and every year I send, from my own and from other offices, boys and young men to the same shrines of causes, not lost, but gone before, who are all of them beginning the same cycle of periodicity that has marked the lives of their elders; and to all of us, young and old, these grey and wonderful cities mean, not great art alone, but even more, the greater impulse that incarnated itself in such personalities as Duns Scotus and Henry V.; Sir Philip Sidney and Sir Walter Raleigh; Grocyn, Linacre, and Erasmus; Laud and Strafford and Falkland; Hampden and Cromwell; the Duke of Wellington and John Keble and Cardinal Newman. For one thing we know at least, and that is that architecture, together with all art, is no matter of fashion or predilection, no vain but desirable amenity of life, but rather an unerring though perishable record of civilisation, more exact than written history, and the only perfect showing of the civilisation of a time. By its fruitage of art we know the tree of life, and further we know that this fruit is not seedless, but the guaranty of life to such ages as use it rightly. We love it for what it is in itself, more for what it reveals to us of a great past, most of all for what it promises our future. Art has dynamic potency; it records indeed, but it is evocative also, and we who would have Sidneys and Straffords and Newmans to redeem and defend and ennoble our civilisation use the architecture that is their voicing that it may recreate their spirit in a later age and in a distant but not alien land.

So much then by way of the introduction you did not bring me over-seas to say; and now let us turn to the work itself of which you expect me to speak.

And first of all let me show you from Harvard one or two examples of what we did for a beginning. It was not very much, I suppose, but we care for it extremely, just because it spells our own brief antiquity, while it was honest and sincere, and not without a certain pathetic element of far-away longing for an old but not forgotten home. English it was, of course, so far as we could make it, for we were all English—or rather British—in bone and blood and tradition, down to half a century ago. The old artistic impulse that had remained with man from the beginning was slowly dying for the first time in recorded history; it had been losing vitality ever since the Renaissance and Reformation, but it was still instinctive, and so remained until that Revolution, which included so much more than the French Terror, came to give it its quietus. This day—or night—was still far off, and in the XVIIth and XVIIIth centuries there was still exquisite delicacy and refinement and wealth of invention. I wish I could show you some proofs of this in the shape of domestic and ecclesiastical work from Massachusetts Bay Colony and Virginia and Maryland and the Carolinas, for it is true that little of this appears in our collegiate work. Here, funds were scant and dearly obtained, while the planters of the South and the great merchants of the North were more lavish in their outlay; as it is, our early college buildings make their appeal through their fine proportions and their frank simplicity.

Of course, practically all the XVIIth-century work, and nine-tenths of that of the XVIIIth, is gone, including much of the best, and we must recreate our vision of the past from shreds and patches; but fortunately at Harvard there remains a notable group that has yielded neither to vandalism nor conflagration. As would be seen from the plan of the old "Yard" the typical English quadrangular arrangement was abandoned for a grouping of isolated buildings, at first more or less formal, then developing into final chaos as other men with other minds came on the scene and placed their buildings, and designed them also, at their own sweet will. As for the material, it was almost invariably brick, at first imported from the old country, for the visible stone supply in New England was intractable granite, and even where a kinder material was available there was in the beginning little skill in cutting, and later little money to pay for the labour involved. With few exceptions the trimmings of doors and windows and

cornices were of delicately moulded wood painted white, the Vignolan laws as to proportion being intelligently modified to fit the new material, while the roofs were covered with split shingles.

The first evidence of decadence appears, I think, in the advent of that more pompous style President Jefferson did so much to advance. Hitherto what had been done was done simply and unaffectedly: now came the conscious desire for architecture, which is a dangerous ambition at best. At the University of Virginia we have the original setting-out almost intact, and if we deplore the unnecessarily unreasonable classical porticoes with columns, entablatures, and pediments complete—and all built of pine boards framed up in the semblance of a newly discovered paganism—we must admit the great dignity of the plan and the singular charm of the “ensemble.”



HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

This “Jeffersonian” style rapidly took the place of the old Georgian; but its day was brief, and somewhere between 1820 and 1830 occurred that ominous point when the last flickering tradition of good taste and the last weak impulse of instinctive art vanished—for the first time in history—and the new era began wherein the desires and predilections of society as a whole were no longer for good things and beautiful things, but explicitly and even clamorously for bad things and ugly things, while the uncertain offices of the architect were the only agencies that from time to time redeemed the general chaos.

Fortunately there was little collegiate building with us during this dismal second quarter of the XIXth century—or, rather, and also fortunately, little of it has survived;—and when first the architect appears on the scene as the mentor rather than the exemplar of public opinion, it is in novel guise—nothing less, indeed, than as the protagonist of Gothic. He was not *very* Gothic, I must admit, and in the beginning he contented himself with a few apologetic and quite casual buttresses, pointed arches over his door and window openings, an

octagonal turret or two, and, of course, battlements, usually of two-inch deal neatly painted, and sometimes sprinkled with sand as a concession to appearances. What took place in domestic and ecclesiastical architecture I dare not even reveal to you, but the college work was a shade less horrific, for sometimes, as at West Point, it was of stone, and good stone-work will cover a multitude of sins—as it still does in our own day and generation, I believe.

Perhaps it is hardly fair to attribute this first "Gothic" to architects; really it was the work of the ambitious builder, who, after crystallising under the immortal Batty Langley's handbooks on classical architecture, suddenly expanded with almost explosive force beneath the influence of that amazing work of the same gifted author wherein he reduces Gothic also to a system of "orders," and demonstrates how by a few simple rules one can easily learn to produce "genteel and appropriate structures in the Gothic Taste." But the Oxford Movement and Pugin's Gothic Revival soon passed beyond the admirable Batty Langley, and the influence of Pugin himself entered America, largely through a really great architect, Upjohn. I think he did no collegiate work, but John Ruskin produced those that did, and from the close of our war between the States down to about 1880 the new Gothic that expressed his really enormous influence might be said to have run riot through our colleges. There were those like Renwick and Congdon, and Mr. Haight, who is still living, that held conscientiously to the grave and archæological type established by the Pugins; there were others who tried to incorporate Ruskinian doctrines in more personal, original, and mobile work, as Blomfield and Butterfield were doing here in England; the results were at least lacking in monotony, but few of them achieved the simplicity and the dignity of Mr. Haight's work, while many of them reached a point of violence and anarchy hardly to be matched in history.

It was all a "false dawn," however, and ceased almost in a moment (though for a brief period only, as we shall see) when that great genius and greater personality, Richardson, flashed like an unpredicted comet across the sky. The later 'seventies were desperate, no less, and the group of conscientious men could not withstand the flood of falsity and bad taste and artificiality that involved the whole art of architecture. Richardson alone turned the tide, brushed away the whole card-house of artifice, and deliberately forced a new and alien style on a bewildered people. He did great work, some of it immortal work, in his powerful mode, but he died before his mission was accomplished, and though he killed the "French roof style" and the futile Gothic, and all the other absurdities, he left behind no one of his own calibre to carry on the crusade, but instead a multitude of imitators who, though at first doing fine work under the memory and inspiration of their master, gradually turned away into other fields, leaving the Romanesque propaganda to the most inadequate exponents imaginable. For a decade we wallowed in Lilliputian cyclopeanisms, and then, to change the simile, the summer storm swept west and south, and over the desolation it had left loomed, almost simultaneously, three new tendencies—Colonial, Perpendicular Gothic, and "Beaux-Arts." Three less well-assorted bed-fellows it would be hard to find, but with a magnanimity rare in history these three rivals more or less succeeded in establishing a *modus vivendi*, Colonial taking over part of the new, and again triply divided, Gaul in the shape of domestic work, Gothic annexing so far as it could all collegiate, scholastic, and ecclesiastical building, while to the Beaux-Arts propaganda fell all it could get of the rest—particularly Carnegie libraries, town houses, and banks. As a matter of fact, this partitioning of architectural activity was not the result of amity, nor was it in the least definitive; the Colonial style claimed the patronage of our Nonconformist brethren (with show of reason and propriety); Gothic tried vainly to break into the library fold; while the Beaux-Arts architects made unavailing eyes at the Church, and, indeed, claimed everything in sight. Their pretensions did not go without questioning, however, for in the meantime the old and most classical classic was reborn (it had never wholly died), and, at the hands of that great man Charles McKim, it suddenly achieved

a height of serene nobility where it could and did challenge the claims of its rivals. And there were other claimants for the architectural crown now so completely "in commission"; there was the Spanish pretender, with its doubtful offspring, the quaintly denominated "Mission style"; there was the secessionist Americanism of the inspired but unguarded Mr. Sullivan; there was a kind of neo-Byzantinism; there was a hidden but persistent Japanese propaganda. In fact, I was wrong when I said that the Architectural Gaul was divided into three parts; it was not such a triple partition that confronts us now; it is an omnivorous eclecticism that bears some of the earmarks of anarchy. To use one of our own phrases, "everything goes," and much of it goes exceedingly well, amazingly so in fact, but the result is somewhat lacking in the qualities of unity and lucidity.



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, NEW YORK.
(McKim, Mead, and White, architects.)

Fortunately we have to do with few of the varied schools, for though all of them have footholds in the several colleges, only two have established their claims—Georgian and Gothic—and at the present time the latter has the call and has produced the most notable results; it may almost be said that except where lack of funds or climatic conditions argue against Gothic, this has the field absolutely to itself. The ascetic and fastidious classicism of McKim created Columbia University, and occurs sporadically elsewhere; the "Boulevardesque" of the Beaux-Arts men appears in a single building at Yale, in the slow-growing University of California and in the Naval College at Annapolis; Spanish elements go to the making of Leland Stanford, and in Texas my own firm is doing "a deed without a name"

that you must judge for yourselves and justify, if you can, and as we do ourselves. Elsewhere it is, as I said, Georgian or Gothic, and to the college trustee it is now the question "under which King, Bezonian?" Harvard, after swinging the circle of every possible architectural dogma and heresy, has settled down, as she should, to Georgian, as has Williams, and as have so many of the smaller and poorer preparatory schools and colleges, particularly in the South; but Yale, West Point, Pennsylvania, New York, Princeton, Bryn Mawr, Washington University, St. Louis, and Chicago, together with all the larger preparatory and Church schools, and the newer Roman Catholic institutions, are uncompromisingly Gothic of the type made immortal by Winchester, Eton, Oxford, and Cambridge.

Before showing you the nature of this work, it may be well to examine a typical American University, in its setting out, in its component parts, and in its organisation. I will choose for this purpose Princeton, of which I am a member by adoption, and where I have the honour



THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY, ANNAPOLIS.
(Ernest Flagg, architect.)

to act as Supervising Architect. The title itself will indicate at once one of the many points of divergence between the English and American systems, for I fancy there is no University in the United Kingdom where one man is given almost complete authority over all matters of the choice of architects, supervision of their work both in design and execution, acceptance or rejection of gifts, and their placing if accepted, the development of roads and paths, and the planting of trees and shrubs. Until recently such an office was unknown in America, but since Princeton took the lead some five or six years ago, others have followed rapidly, and the practice has now become an established custom.

It was time, too, that something should be done; as I have already indicated, our colleges are like Topsy, they "just grewed," without rhyme or reason, subject to the most vacillating fashion and the quaint whims of emancipated individuals, and the results were generally shocking. In the plan of Princeton, as it was when I was put in charge, you will easily see how lawless had been the growth, and conditions were even worse at Harvard and Yale. You will note at once from the wide spacing and the lack of co-ordination another

point of difference; with us almost every college has begun in open country, as an original foundation. We have nothing like Oxford and Cambridge, partly because of this fact, and partly because each college is with us a unit; we have no gathering together of many and independent foundations, loosely knit together for administrative purposes; we have, instead, self-contained units, sometimes of enormous size, and each new benefactor founds, not a



A PLAN FOR THE ARCHITECTURAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL DEVELOPMENT OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY.
(R. A. Cram, Boston, Mass., Supervising Architect.)

new college, but a dormitory, a library, a school of law or medicine or forestry or—journalism. Personally, I think this plan must be abandoned, and a breaking up into more manageable units take place. It seems to me demonstrable that in schools that have from four to six thousand students half the character-building qualities of education are lost, and that the personal element must be regained by breaking up these unwieldy masses into working units of not more than two hundred men each, at least for living and social purposes. This was attempted two years ago at Princeton, but the time was not ripe and the reform failed; but



Stafford Little Hall, Princeton University (Cope & Stewardson, architects).



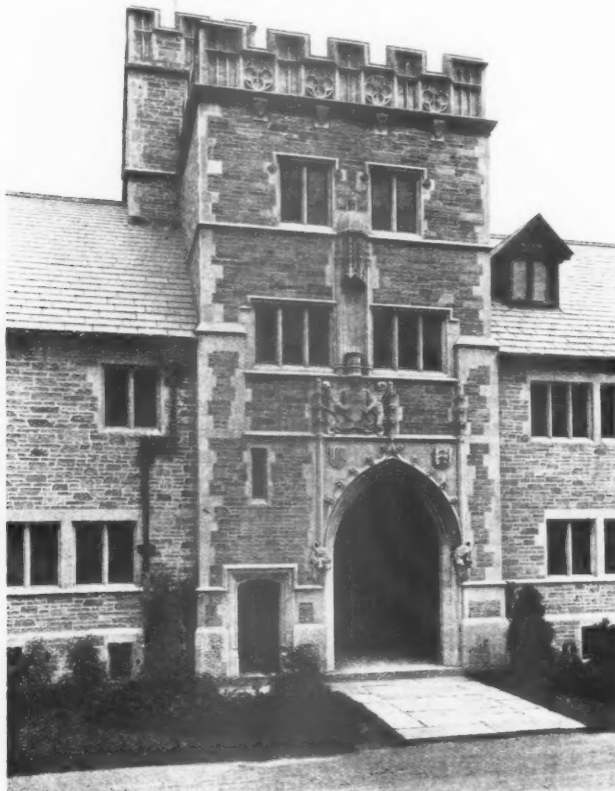
Quadrangle of Holder Hall, looking northward (Day Bros. & Klauder, architects).

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, NEW JERSEY.

the heaven is working at Harvard and Cornell and elsewhere, and is, I think, within measurable distance of accomplishment.

In the new plan of Princeton, which shows the University as it now is, and indicates its future lines of development, you will see at once how strong the tendency is towards the standard type; here the dormitories are assuming quadrangular form, and in time may become

full residential colleges, each with its common room and great hall, and, when times have still further changed, its chapel. In the beginning our dormitories were simply barracks, with living rooms opening off long halls, with remarkable results, so far as order and discipline were concerned. Now the "entry" type is almost universal, the type that holds in England, while the old sequence of regular cells serving both as study and bedroom for one or even two men, with a common *necessarium* two or three hundred yards away, has given place to the standard type of suites of a study and two bedrooms for two undergraduates, and a study and bedroom for each graduate student. In the former case each stairway is separated from the next by a party wall, unbroken except in the basement, to which all staircases descend, and here a general corridor gives access to groups of baths and toilets, and to the box-rooms, and to the other staircases in the quadrangle as well.



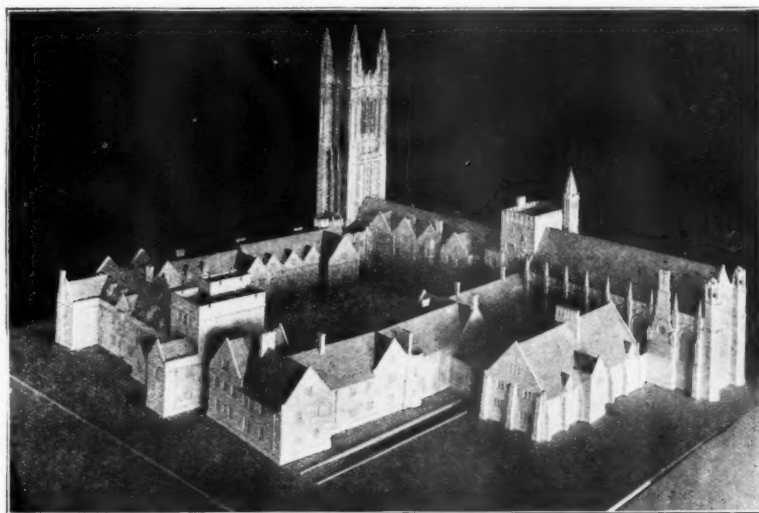
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY: CAMPBELL HALL.
(Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson, architects.)

In the newest of our buildings for graduate students every two suites have a private bath between. Of course, we pride ourselves very much on our plumbing, and I sometimes wonder if we are not becoming almost Roman in our luxuries for bathing; it is possible we have gone too far, and that in time we shall return to more Spartan arrangements; but at present there is no denying the fact that we give nine-tenths of our students more than they are accustomed to at home.

Another thing that will strike you is the magnificence of our gymnasiums and the dominating quality of our schools of science. There is really a rivalry amongst our schools as to which shall have the biggest and most perfectly equipped gymnasium and swimming pools, but this is partly excused by the fact that our winters are so severe that for three or four months skating, snow-shoeing, and ice-boating are about the only possible forms of outdoor

exercise. Then we have general physical directors, as well as special trainers for the varied forms of athletics, and in many colleges regular and searching examinations of the men for physical and functional weaknesses, and as a result the health of our schools is well above normal. As for our science buildings, you know, as we know only too well, how almost unbalanced we have become in our devotion to practical and "vocational" training, and how obsessed we have become with the mania for natural science. Here at Princeton there is less of this than elsewhere, but two of our newest and most magnificent buildings are devoted, the one to biology, the other to physics, though as yet we have no schools of mechanical and electrical and mining engineering, as happens so often elsewhere.

One novelty you will not notice on the Princeton plan, and that is the clubs and fraternities. We have as many "Greek Letter Societies" (which are very awful and very secret organisations) as we have colleges, and there are some institutions in America where these fraternity houses almost outnumber the academic buildings themselves. At Princeton no Greek Letter



PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, NEW JERSEY: GRADUATE COLLEGE.
(Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson, architects.)

Societies are allowed, but there are two old secret organisations, the Whig and the Clio, whose white marble mausoleums form the very centre of the campus, while to the east stretches a great street absolutely lined with the private clubs which grew up when the fraternities were taboo. These clubs take in only a certain number of new members each year, they are distinctly aristocratic in their tone, though aristocratic of a sound and healthy type, and the buildings generally follow the lines of an old and palatial country house.

From all these points of difference you will see then that our American University is a very different matter in its architectural form from those in this country. Our newest Graduate Colleges come nearer, as you will see when I show you the now rising buildings for Princeton which lie half a mile to the west.

In the meantime let us examine the beginnings of what has been a notable Gothic Renaissance amongst our colleges—and we need not forsake Princeton to do this, for it was here, in the shape of the new Library, that it came into being. Alexander Hall had just been completed in the verbose and turgid style that followed the memory of Richardson like a Nemesis,

and the same architect was given orders to abandon this and revert to what we sometimes call "Oxford Gothic." It was not a style with which he had either sympathy or familiarity, and he produced a work which, while acceptable in its mass and general composition, fails sadly through its coarse scale and its mechanical ornamentation. Almost simultaneously, however, certain new dormitories were put in hand—Blair and Little Halls—and here the architects were two young men of Philadelphia, who most unaccountably could think and feel in Gothic terms. I like to record their names whenever I can—John Stewardson and Walter Cope—for in addition to being singularly lovable fellows, they were geniuses of no inferior order; they brought into being at Princeton, Bryn Mawr, and the University of Pennsylvania structures that are to me singularly beautiful and inspiring, and they left their mark for all time on



ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL CHAPEL (Henry Vaughan, architect).

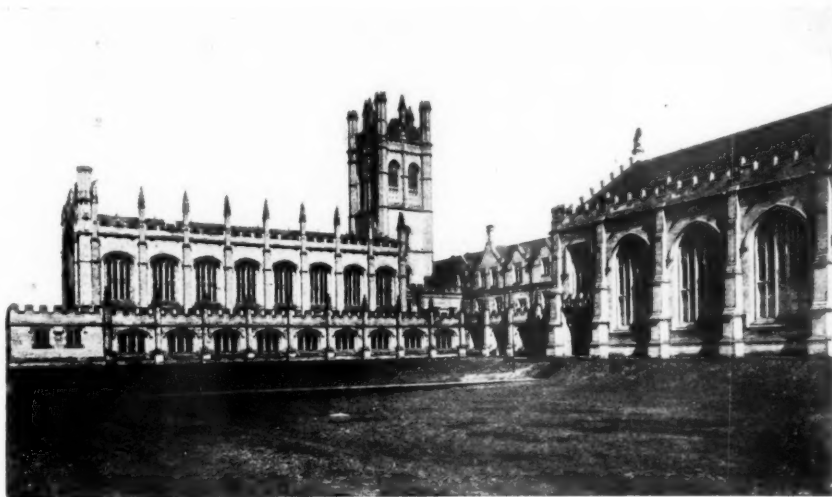
American architecture. Both are dead, and at a pathetically early age, while the profession of architecture is the poorer thereby.

About the same time a transplanted Englishman, Mr. Vaughan, sometime pupil of that immortal master of the new Gothic, George Bodley, and still with us, I am glad to say, began the introduction of the same style into our great preparatory schools, which you here would call "public schools." His work at St. Paul's marked a new era in this category of scholastic architecture, and was continued later in more sumptuous fashion at Groton. My own firm has been following his leadership in the Convent School of St. Mary, at Peekskill, and the Taft School in Connecticut, while there are innumerable examples of the same sort of thing all over the country.

It was really Cope and Stewardson's work at Princeton that set the pace, however; and so beautiful was it, so convincing as to the possibilities of adapting this perfect style to all modern scholastic requirements, that the University authorities, with a wisdom beyond their generation, passed a law that for the future every building erected at Princeton should follow the same

general style. Seventy-nine Hall, Patton, McCosh, and the Gymnasium followed in quick succession; then came the great Palmer Physical Laboratory, the Biological Laboratory—Guyot Hall—Upper Pyne, and Lower Pyne; and a little later, after I had become Supervising Architect, Campbell Hall, by my own firm, and the altogether wonderful quadrangles of Holder and Hamilton Halls, by Messrs. Day Brothers & Klauder, of Philadelphia. I do not hesitate to say that to me these latter buildings mark almost the highest point achieved in Collegiate Gothic in modern times. When the great quads are completed, we shall, I think, confront a masterpiece.

The most recent Princeton work is the great Graduate College my own firm is now building on the crest of a low hill, half a mile from the college campus, and commanding a gently sloping lawn of about eighty acres. This new college is of course only for graduate students; it has an endowment of over £500,000, it is conceived and organised on the most liberal, cultural, and scholastic lines, far away indeed from the popular schemes of "voca-



CHICAGO UNIVERSITY (Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge, architects).

tional " training, and it should go far towards restoring the balance in favour of sound learning and noble scholarship. The plan shows only the work now in hand, the first quad, with the Great Hall and its kitchens, together with the Cleveland Tower, which is a national memorial to one of our greatest Presidents, who spent his years, after retiring from office, in Princeton, as a Trustee of the University and a devoted friend of the new Graduate College on the lines that had been determined by its Dean, Dr. West. At present the placing of the great tower seems a little too like that of the Victoria Tower at Westminster to be wholly satisfactory, but in some distant future a second quadrangle will be constructed to the south and east, containing the Chapel, the Library, and quarters for Fellows, which will restore the tower itself to the centre of the composition. Some day, also, a third quad will be developed to the north-east, and then the group will be complete, for the Dean's Lodgings, with their private gardens, to the south-west of the Great Hall, are already under construction.

Let us now turn from Princeton to some others of our many colleges; but before we take up the Gothic tale, let us see what has been done in other stylistic directions, for I would not give you the idea that the restoration of what one of your own great Gothicists, Mr.

Champneys, has called so well the "Oxford Mixture" is all plain sailing, or that splendid work has not been done in other directions. Columbia University in New York—the old King's College of Colonial days—stands of course as the noblest type of the pure classical idea, and its majestic Library will always remain a national monument. Unfortunately, the site is crowded and fatally restricted: the mistake was made of fixing this—when the change was necessary a generation ago—too near the outposts of the advancing city, which, like a conquering army, has already swept up to its gates and miles beyond. For myself, I cannot imagine a great centre of higher education in the howl and war of a great city, or anywhere, in fact, except in the quiet country or in the village environment it has built for itself, and I fancy another generation will see another moving on of Columbia; and when this happens I venture to predict that, in spite of the grave and scholarly mastery of McKim, Mead, & White's work,



ANDOVER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

(Allen & Collens, architects.)

the new housing will be on the lines that Oxford and Cambridge have not only made their own, but universal and eternal.

There is little else that is purely classical amongst our Universities; though Carrère & Hastings have built a most engagingly Parisian Alumnæ Hall at Yale, the Naval Academy at Annapolis is strictly French, and the University of California is growing on scrupulously Beaux-Arts lines afar on the Pacific Coast. Georgian, however, has established itself as a determined rival of the "Oxford Mixture," and some of its products are not only logical and lovely, but genuinely scholastic as well. Harvard, as I have said, is conscientiously following this line, and so is Williams, where we ourselves are trying to show we have no hard feelings by building a Commencement Hall, and a new quadrangle, in this quite characteristically American style. In Virginia, also, we are slowly constructing a great college for women, while we are using the same style for another of our oldest and most famous "preparatory schools" at Exeter, as well as at yet another girls' college, Wheaton, in Massachusetts. Georgian also,

with rather quaint Roman elements, has been used by McKim, Mead, & White for the vast War College at Washington, and altogether it is, as we say in our colloquial way, giving Gothic "a run for its money."

The University of Pennsylvania shows still more of Cope and Stewardson's wonderful work, though here it is couched in an extremely rich Elizabethan vernacular, and I am sure you will admit that the style is handled in a magnificent and competent fashion. Here it is all red brick and yellow stone, and the same materials are used in Mr. Day's beautifully proportioned and very reserved Gymnasium. Bryn Mawr is again built of the wonderful stone that underlies all Pennsylvania and New Jersey, putting a premium on good architecture. Here in England all building stone is finely dressed, but in America we have adopted the practice of using "ledge stone" for our ashlar, our trimmings only being tooled. Fortunately, we have a wide variety of singularly beautiful stones, ranging in colour through all shades of grey, brown, purple, and tawny, easily obtained, inexpensive, and durable. In a way I think we gain a



CHAPIN HALL, WILLIAMS COLLEGE, WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS.
(Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson, architects.)

richness in colour and texture that is obtainable in no other way, while we also acquire something of that effect of age, which is, after all, so essential a part of architecture.

Washington University, St. Louis, is later work of this same firm of Cope & Stewardson, after the latter had died, and, good as it is, it shows the loss of the peculiar poetry that marked everything Stewardson touched. The plan is exceedingly interesting and very masterly, you will admit. It was laid out *de novo*, and after our college authorities had experienced a change of heart. With Chicago University we come to another of those institutions where the reverse course was followed: here the first buildings were distributed without any regard to architectural effect, and Shepley, Rutan, & Coolidge, in taking over the work, have been badly handicapped. This is the most archæological of the "college Gothic" in America, accurate, conservative, and reserved. For contrast consider Mr. Post's "College of the City of New York," which is as poetical, fantastic, and imaginative as the other is austere and cautious. I am afraid I think that here is an example of carrying a good thing too far in the use of one stone for ashlar and another for trimmings. Here the ashlar is almost black (the trap-rock

that forms a great dyke along the geological "fault" that forms the Hudson River), while the trimming stones are not stone at all, but a pure white terra-cotta with a surface like ivory. In itself the design is so striking, so forceful, so full of life and spirit, one rather wishes it might have been expressed in materials of greater coherency.

Fortunately, both for education and architecture, practically all our collegiate work is fixed in the country, where there is land enough, and we are able to keep down to those modest walls

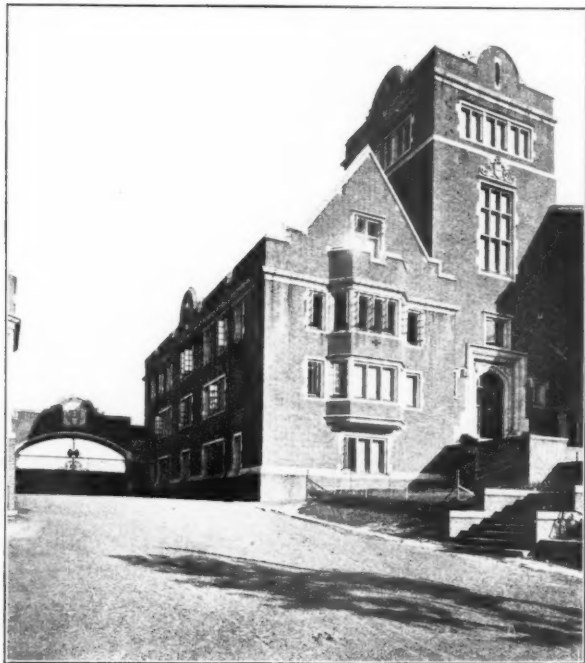
and few ranges of windows that are so essential a part of the models we now follow: at Princeton, for instance, the residential buildings are seldom more than two stories in height, even when perhaps three would be better, but we are very afraid, and justly, of the aspiring tendencies in our light-footed land that lead to the building of Towers of Babel, sometimes, I regret to say, Gothic in style—or rather with passably acceptable Gothic detail. In one instance, however, that of the Union Theological Seminary (a Presbyterian institution), in New York, strange counsels prevailed as to site, and this was chosen well within the City, and where land already possessed an altogether artificial value. As a result the architects, Messrs. Allen & Collens, were confronted with the very grievous necessity of piling up their levels into a total with which, I think, Gothic, either in spirit or in method, has little



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, PEEKSKILL, NEW YORK.
(Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson, architects.)

sympathy. They have a fine chapel, however, and when the enormous corner tower is built it will probably do much towards reducing the other buildings to a more reasonable frame of mind.

At the beginnings of another Theological Seminary, Roman Catholic this time, Messrs. Maginnis & Walsh have already completed one building, the tower of which is, I think, very beautiful: the general plan is not yet wholly determined, but it includes a huge parish church, and will give a great opportunity for the architects to strike another blow for Roman



Entrance to Gymnasium.



Archaeological Museum

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

(Day, Bros. & Klauder; Wilson Eyre; and Cope & Stewardson, joint architects.)

Catholic emancipation. I should shrink from trying to give you any faintest idea of the career of architectural crime that has been led by the Roman Church in America until now—and the stars of promise are even yet dim and widely scattered. It has been a carnival of horror unbroken by any ray of light—except perhaps St. Patrick's and the Paulist Church in New York—but it is much that so good a thing as Boston College should come into existence, and it may serve as a leaven until we Anglicans in America, as you here in England, may have to look

alive to prevent Rome out-doing us at our own game, which has always been good architecture and plenty of it.

Near this Roman college, another great institution is rising, not strictly collegiate, though certainly educational, the "Perkins Institution for the Blind," where Mr. R. C. Sturgis is developing a singularly personal and intimate piece of semi-domestic Gothic.

In fact, as I said at the beginning, good Gothic is encroaching steadily on the preserves of Classicist, Boulevardier, and Colonial, and this in spite of the fact that, with the single exception of Harvard, every one of our schools of architecture absolutely disregards every type and phase of Gothic, both in design and in theory. Of course it can not quite be suppressed in

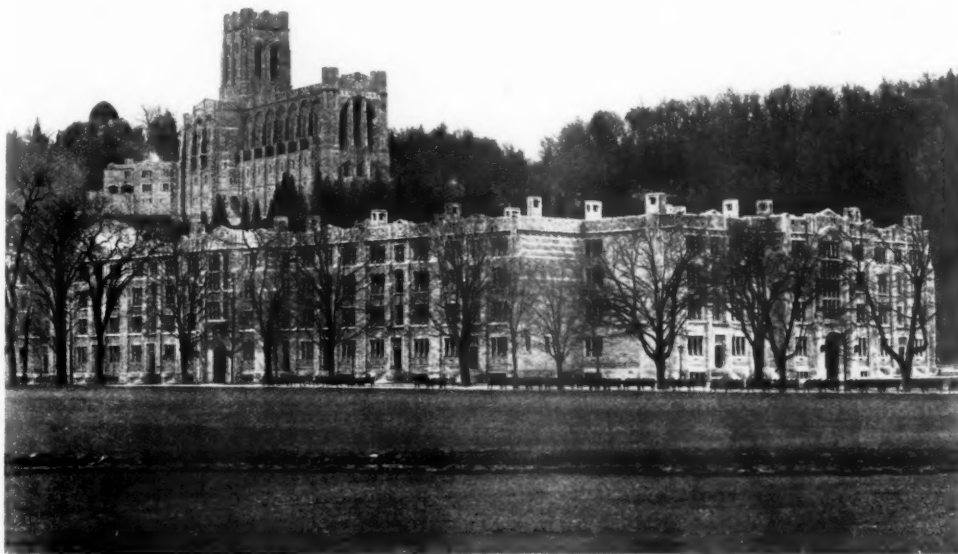


UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA: PROVOST'S TOWER AND DORMITORIES.
(Cope & Stewardson, architects.)

history and archaeology, but it is treated rather as the madcap escapade of a callow youth, and passed over as lightly as possible. In spite of this, architects do appear who love Gothic, and, what is more, know about it also. Religion clamours for it, education annexes it, and even, in one instance, the Government of the United States itself accepted it with alacrity, and has found it not half as bad as it looked. For an end, therefore, of this casual showing, I want to place before you some views of the United States Military Academy at West Point, of which, as a military training school, we are so inordinately proud. I cannot begin to give you any idea of the extravagant beauty of the site of West Point. It is like the loveliest part of the Rhine, only bolder and more dramatic. Mountains rise from the river on either hand, deeply forested. Storm-King and Dunderberg lifting highest of all; and on a narrow plateau, one hundred and fifty feet above the river, stands the Academy, its buildings forming a rampart along the cliff, and creeping up the mountain sides all around. Of course there wasn't anything one could do

there *except* Gothic—of sorts—though others had thought differently, as one who built there a lovely pagan fane like a dream of Imperial Rome. Moreover, most of the old work was pseudo-Gothic, and it had made a tradition—everything does this at West Point I am glad to say—so it was not startling after all that our classical Government should have endorsed a Gothic school.

I am not sure they got it. I think the chapel on its crag, dominating the whole group, would pass, though it surely is not archaeological; the site is compelling, however, and really what we tried to do was to translate the rocks and trees and ribbed cliffs into architectural form. In the interior there is perhaps something more of the scholastic quality: in any case it is all honest masonry throughout, floor, walls and vault, and it ought to stand for all time. Just what the cavalry and artillery buildings may be I do not know, nor does it much matter; they are an attempt to express outwardly their function, and in the simplest terms: the stables



U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY, WEST POINT, N.Y.
(Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson, architects.)

sweep in an enormous arc around one side of the cavalry plain, and at the back, against the towering hills, are the barracks, one for each branch of the Service. The riding-hall is no more architecturally than a rampart of rock, heavily buttressed, and six hundred feet in length, a dimension that is prolonged to the south by the tower, and the power-house that breaks down step by step, along the coal-conveyor, to the water level and the railway tunnel. The cadet barracks are the result of an amour (perhaps illicit) between iron-clad military regulations, and a very free and easy Gothic, but their interminable ranges of windows and buttresses show not unpicturesquely through the great trees that border the infantry plain. The gymnasium is perhaps freer still, but not unpleasing in its colour, of tawny brick of a kind of velvet texture, and creamy stone trimmings. Unfortunately some of the most important work is not yet begun. There are scores of semi-detached quarters for married officers, from many of which the views are such as one crosses continents to see, but the new Academic building is not

yet finished, while no funds have been made available for the vast quadrangles of the quartermaster's department, the cadet headquarters which will, from the plain, form the structural base for the chapel (though this will be well behind and above), the hotel, and—most needed of all—the staff headquarters. This latter group will terminate the main axis, which will stretch a full half-mile from the landing on the upper level at the elevator tower and below the hotel, past the infirmary, between the old and the new Academic buildings connected by

their vast triumphal arch with its niched statues, past the enormous post headquarters, and so across the middle of the infantry plain. The group will be made up of residential quarters for the superintendent, commandant of cadets, quartermaster, adjutant, and surgeon, all grouped around an open court that contains the State apartments of the President, the Secretary of War, and distinguished guests. There will be a great tower pierced by an arched sallyport, a banqueting room vaulted and walled in stone, State reception rooms, and all the other accommodations necessary at a place that appeals with singular force to all the people of the Republic, from its chief magistrate down to the humblest taxpayer.

Lacking these buildings West Point is, of course, quite incom-

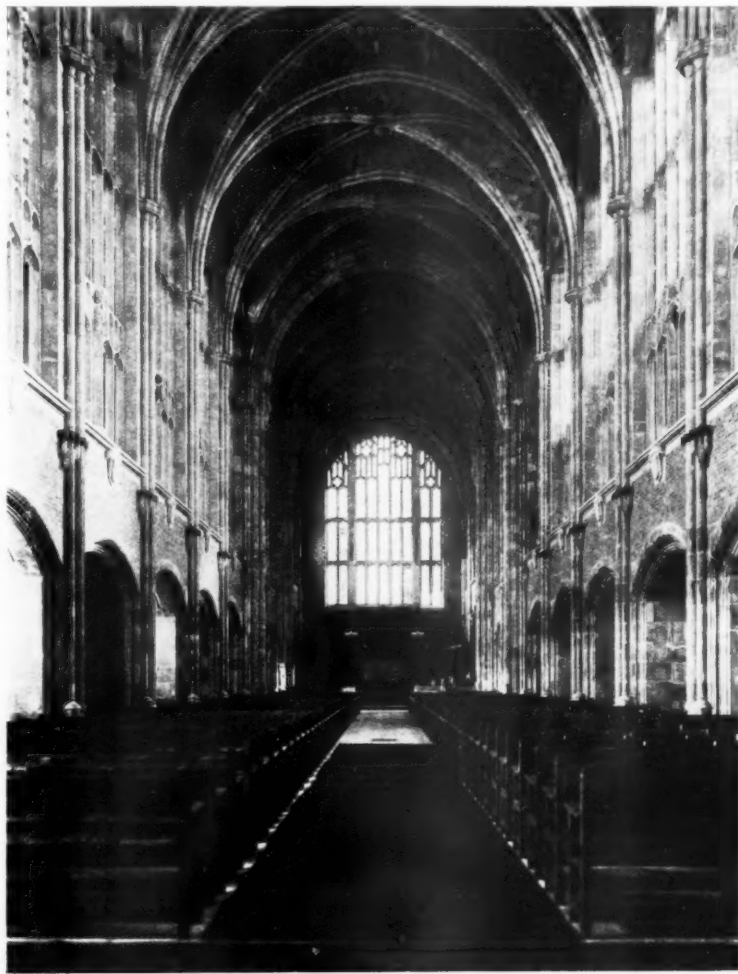


U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY, WEST POINT, N.Y.
(Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson, architects.)

plete, but it is worth seeing even now, and for my own part I think of the finished buildings the post headquarters is not the least interesting. It is built on the edge of the cliff, and the entrance by the base gate is four stories below the main court, which is entered from the upper level. It is a pretty big building, but it is wholly occupied by the administration of the Academy, and the military museum, and I want particularly to say that, massive as it is, it is all real masonry; it is no steel frame skeleton clothed indifferently with

a veneering of masonry; it is all of stone dug from the Reservation cliffs, and shot down to these lower levels.

And the same is true not only of the rest of the buildings at West Point, but of practically all the other work I have shown you as well. We do, indeed, indulge in skeleton construction, and reinforced concrete and other structural expedients and substitutes, but deep in our racial



U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY, WEST POINT, N.Y.: CHAPEL.
(Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson, architects.)

consciousness, as in that of all other Anglo-Saxon peoples, is the solid conviction that after all there are but three real things in the world—the home, the school, and the Church—and that when we are dealing with eternal verities honest and enduring construction is alone admissible. And it is to the same consciousness I think that we may attribute the very universal return to Gothic of some form for our churches and our colleges and our schools. After all there have never been but three real styles of architecture in the West, noble in

impulse, organic in structure, perfect in detail, and these three are Greek, Byzantine, and Gothic; everything else is either a *patois* or a form of slang. Greek and Byzantine are in essence alien to our blood and temper, and Gothic alone remains. Over-seas, flushed with a new and half unconscious recognition of the hidden revolution that is slowly lifting the world out of materialism to the high free levels of a new idealism and spirituality, we instinctively revert to the very style which came into being to voice the old idealism and the old spirituality of the great Christian Middle Ages. Thus we have perhaps done little more than reproduce, recording our reverence for the great works of our common ancestors, in buildings that hold closely to type. We have not hammered out our own intimate style, or national and contemporary architecture, any more than have any other modern races and peoples, but this will come by-and-by. At present we architects are, I conceive, no longer as in the past the mouthpiece of a people, creating the visible form for a great dominating social impulse that is the mark of supreme civilisation; rather are we the voices crying in the wilderness, the pioneers of the vanguard of the new life, the men who recreate from antiquity the beauty that is primarily educational, that so it may work subtly through the consciousness of those who come under its influence, slowly building up a new civilisation that, when it has come full tide, will burst the shell of archaeological forms, and come forth in its new and significant and splendid shape.

We have not now, nor have had for three centuries, a civilisation that demanded or could create such artistic expression, but the light is already on the edges of the high hills, and we know that a new dawn is at hand. In the meantime, like the monks in the dim monasteries of the Dark Ages, we cherish and conserve all that was great in our greatest past, building as well as we may new Oxfords and new Westminster Abbeys, new Lincolns, new Richmond Castles, new Haddon Halls, not as the last new word in architectural expression, but as school-masters and as prophets, content with the educational work we are accomplishing, leaving to our successors the equal but not more honourable task of voicing in novel and adequate form the new civilisation we are helping to create.

VOTE OF THANKS.

The President, Mr. LEONARD STOKES, in the Chair.

Mr. EDWARD WARREN, F.S.A. [*F.*].—It is always a pleasure to welcome here a brother architect when he comes from a foreign and friendly country to instruct us; and where, as in this instance, he comes from a country which we are happy to regard as friendly but which we refuse to regard as foreign, the welcome is redoubled. I presume the honour of giving formal expression to our gratitude has fallen upon me because of the Paper I read in this room a few weeks ago on the evolution and development of the collegiate type of architecture as we know it here and in neighbouring countries. It is a far cry from the quiet grey quadrangles of Oxford and the brown old courts of Cambridge to these bright new examples, scintillating under the brilliant American light, which Mr. Cram has put before us. We feel at first a little bewildered by the flights of fancy in the scholastic direction which many of these buildings display. But it is with a certain sense of—may I say?—titivation of our insular pride and of some considerable gratification that we have seen that the English ideal, that of the court, the quad-

rangle, and the gateway, largely predominates in these American examples. We congratulate Mr. Cram not only upon his interesting and brilliant Paper, but upon the magnificent opportunities, which he has so well used, and of which he has shown us such excellent examples. Anything more superb than the site he had to deal with at West Point it would be difficult to imagine, and we congratulate him on the way in which he has handled that opportunity. For the opportunity, after all, does not always make the man; it is the man who makes the opportunity. And I feel sure that Mr. Cram will understand that here in England, where these ancient things which we possess are cherished with pride, we are somewhat amused as well as interested to observe the reflex of the various forms so well known to us in the unfamiliar surroundings and in the unaccustomed light of America. I have never had the opportunity of making the acquaintance of these buildings except graphically, photographically, and by hearsay; for I am sorry to say I have not been to America, but I still hope that chance may come.

I must not detain the Meeting at this late hour, but will propose at once a most cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Cram for the immense trouble he has taken and for the brilliant Paper he has given us.

Sir ASTON WEBB, C.B., C.V.O., R.A. [F.]—I second with the greatest pleasure the vote of thanks to Mr. Cram. It is impossible to exaggerate the debt we owe him for coming to us with his splendid enthusiasm and showing us what is being done in the way of university building in the United States. Like Mr. Warren, I should like to congratulate him on the magnificent opportunities he has had, and upon the way in which he has used them. I am sure we are all immensely struck with that building of his at West Point. He has impressed us with his Gothic enthusiasm, and reminded many of us of the days when we ourselves were Gothic enthusiasts—I am not sure that I, for one, am not so still. Since then we have come to think that styles do not matter, but that "style" does. One is inclined to believe with Ruskin, that it does not matter whether a man takes three months to paint one single petal of a flower, or whether he covers a palace with colour in a single day, so long as he does it with sincerity and whole-heartedness. Perhaps we may say that with these university buildings the style which is adopted does not matter so much so long as the man who builds them is endued with sincerity and whole-heartedness, and with that enthusiasm which Mr. Cram himself possesses in so remarkable a degree. Oxford and Cambridge are full of other buildings than Gothic; perhaps there is more of the "other" than Gothic; but the whole effect, as Mr. Cram says, is eminently satisfying. As regards the buildings he has shown us this evening, when they have received those touches which Time alone can give—and to which our own university buildings owe so much—we trust they will vie with ours, and that our American brethren may equal what our ancestors—and theirs—have left for us here in the old country. I have only to thank Mr. Cram by seconding this vote, and to ask him to carry back across the sea our cordial wishes for the success of American architects in the great endeavour they are making in the erection of their university buildings, and which we are watching with such keen interest.

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Cram has given us a very comprehensive and most admirable Paper. I will now ask you to convey to him our most hearty thanks, and to express in your usual manner how much we appreciate the trouble he has taken, not only in preparing his Paper and coming all the way from Boston to read it before us, but in

collecting the magnificent series of slides he has shown on the screen and the drawings and photographs illustrating his subject which are exhibited in the adjoining room.

The resolution was carried by acclamation and with much enthusiasm.

THE PRESIDENT: I should like, if you will allow me, to add a word of thanks on my own account. As many of you know, I have recently been to the United States, and I assure you that the kindness which was heaped upon me there was almost overpowering. I went more or less as your President; at any rate they insisted upon receiving me as such, and would not let me go anywhere except as President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and honours were showered upon me everywhere as your representative. I should like you therefore to endorse my thanks for the kindnesses which I received in America as your President. I have had the advantage of seeing some of the buildings Mr. Cram has shown us on the screen, particularly those at West Point; and, good as the photographs are, I would ask you to believe that they by no means adequately represent the beauties of the place or of the buildings. The situation is superb, and the buildings add considerably to the natural beauties of the surroundings. Mr. Cram has been somewhat hampered by the buildings which already existed on the site; some are good, others not quite so good, but Mr. Cram—or his firm, as no doubt he would wish me to say—is bringing the whole composition together in a magnificent way, and I can only describe the new buildings as splendid. I will ask you in conclusion to express your appreciation of the kindness which Mr. Cram and his colleagues showed to your President during his recent visit to their country. (Loud applause.)

MR. CRAM: What the other speakers have said already is, I think, sufficient excuse for me to say nothing at this late hour. It is difficult for me to express either my appreciation of the compliment you have paid me in asking me to come here and talk about some of the work we are doing in America; or, on the other hand, anything of my even deeper appreciation of the unfailing kindness and consideration that is shown me, as it is shown to all of my compatriots whenever we are so fortunate as to be able to cross the Atlantic, which, after all, is merely a geographical expression separating two peoples who are essentially, in all their principles of the past, the present, and the future, absolutely one people. I thank you very much indeed for your kind reception of my Paper and for your generous expression of thanks.



9 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 25th May 1912.

CHRONICLE.

Annual General Meeting 6th May: Discussion.

The Minutes of this Meeting were published in the last number of the JOURNAL, page 482. It remains to report the discussion which took place on the Annual Report:—

The PRESIDENT, in presenting the Annual Report of the Council, announced that since its issue the Records Committee had sent in a report of their work during the current session. The Council had approved this report, and he asked permission of the meeting to take it as read, so that it might be included in the Annual Report to be published in the JOURNAL.

The Meeting having signified assent, the President formally moved the adoption of the Annual Report.

Mr. HENRY T. HARE, *Hon. Secretary*, seconded.

Mr. WM. WOODWARD [F.]: At the Annual General Meeting last year Mr. Davidge used these words: "Was it wise that the criticism"—that is to say, the criticism of the work of the Council—"should always come from one particular quarter?" Since then I have become a member of the Council, and you will agree with me, I think, that it would scarcely be fitting on my part to criticise the work of that Council whose meetings I have attended; it was rather my duty to criticise their work at the Council meetings themselves. But even that—and I have criticised their work in a very mild way—confirms the view of those who have preceded me on the Council, that unless you are a member of that body it is impossible to gauge the enormous amount of work which they get through. If you saw the fortnightly agenda I am sure you would agree that even the briefest consideration of its items must occupy a very considerable amount of time and labour. And were it not that our present President, who is not only an Art man, but a thorough business man, has a special faculty for getting through work of this kind, I can assure you that the agendas would be, as so many agendas are, referred from meeting to meeting until no adequate consideration of any of the items would be possible. Being a member of the Council, I propose to delegate to the younger bloods outside that body some of the work which I have thought right to take up for the last twenty-one years.—I only propose to deal very briefly with the Report, and there is only one particular matter, which I shall mention presently, on which I have ventured to disagree with the Council. The Honorary Secretary has already expressed our deep regret at the loss of Sir John Taylor. This is a loss which we shall all deplore. Those of us who knew Sir John will agree that a more genial, kind-hearted man it was impossible to meet. Then we have lost Thomas M. Rickman. I remember

well the last words I heard from him were those in which he seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Julian Rogers for a very excellent Paper delivered at the Surveyors' Institution; in little more than a fortnight after that speech our friend Rickman had passed over to the majority. We lament also the loss of our late Honorary Secretary, Alexander Graham. We all knew him and appreciated his genial manners and good-nature, and his labours during so many years for the benefit of the Institute. These are our older men, but we have also to lament the loss of some of our younger men.—On page 44 you will see that, comparing 1909 with the present year, we now have 29 Fellows less, 237 Associates more, and 10 Honorary Associates more, a total increased membership of 218. Adding 1,834 Licentiates, that brings up the total roll of the Institute in 1912 to 4,330. The decrease of 29 Fellows and the increase of 237 Associates make one deeply regret that those Associates who are eligible do not at once join the ranks of the Fellows, and so increase their power, and the revenue of the Institute also. There is a reference in the Report to Registration. I have sufficient knowledge of this matter to know that the Council have done their best to bring to an end the series of lengthy discussions which have taken place on registration and the union with the Society of Architects. My own personal view is that the matter should now be allowed to die a natural death, at least until it is revived in some other form. With regard to the Board of Professional Defence, I trust the time will arrive when the funds of the Institute will be sufficient to enable us to defend some of those actions-at-law which the poorer architect cannot defend, not from want of a good case, but because his pocket is not deep enough to enable him to do justice to himself in a Court of Law. The Schedule of Professional Charges is still *sub judice*, so to speak, and I do not know when it will be finished; but after all, from what I have heard of the discussion, there is not so very much to cavil at in the present schedule. With regard to town planning, I have already said here more than once, and in the Press too, that whilst Paris has voted 36 millions sterling for improvements in Paris, we in London have done nothing. The Town Planning Committee might take up the question of the improvement of Charing Cross. Trafalgar Square and the opening to the Mall would be a disgrace to any small community, but to such a wealthy community as our own and to such a city as London it is both disgraceful and humiliating.—The Henry Jarvis Bequest, referred to on page 45, is the only matter on which I have ventured to differ from the opinion, the unanimous opinion I think, of my colleagues on the Council. I had my opportunities at meetings of the Council to say what I had to say; but I should like to occupy your time for a few minutes by calling attention to the terms of the will. I am perfectly certain that those who have to deal with this bequest have done as they thought best in the interests of the youth of our profession. But I think you will agree with me that some portion at all events of the Jarvis Bequest might have been used to wipe out that very unpleasant financial statement that there is a bank overdraft of, roughly speaking, £9,000. I am not one of those who think that because of this overdraft the Institute is in a bad financial position. Not at all. But I think that here was an opportunity, whilst bearing in mind the evident wishes of Mr. Jarvis, for wiping out that overdraft and starting with a clean slate. And we might also by another process have allocated certain sums to the scholarships which Mr. Jarvis evidently desired. The part of the will relating to this bequest runs as follows: "And as to the balance of such annual income,

to pay the same to the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects, to be devoted by such Council to the satisfaction of my residuary trustees to the best advantage of the Institute, coupled with the suggestion that either the said balance of annual income arising from such investments should be set apart for the founding of one or more travelling studentships to be called 'The Jarvis Travelling Studentship' or 'Studentships,' as a means whereby deserving students may be enabled to study the best examples of ancient and modern architecture; or,"—I call your special attention to the word "or"—"or that, after providing for the due payment of twenty guineas each annually to my acting residuary trustees, the portion remaining shall be devoted to the purchase of premises or buildings suitable for the headquarters of the Institute; so that of the corpus there shall always remain invested in the names of my residuary trustees a sum sufficient to produce an annual income of £100, to be devoted to the maintenance and upkeep of the premises to be so purchased or built. And in such case my said residuary trustees may set apart and devote so much of the corpus as may be decided for the purposes aforesaid." The Annual Report states that the Council have advised the residuary trustees to apply the available income to the foundation of Jarvis Studentships at the British School at Rome. I am sure we are all desirous of encouraging in every possible way the study of architecture. But let me tell you the means which now exist for such study, which did not exist some time ago. I cannot help thinking that sufficient account has not been taken of these. There are, for instance: (1) The studentships of the Royal Institute of British Architects, annual value £454; (2) Herbert Baker scholarship, £125; (3) British School at Rome, £400; (4) Architectural Association, £175; (5) Royal Academy, £315; (6) Royal College of Art, £132; (7) Glasgow Institute, £20; (8) Liverpool University, £150; and for the provinces a number of other small scholarships, say £200, bringing the total up to £1,971 per annum devoted to the furtherance of the study of architecture. I consider that that is sufficient to enable an enthusiastic young man of to-day to obtain all he wants in the way of encouragement. I need scarcely observe that Michelangelo and Sir Christopher Wren had none of these advantages, yet they certainly succeeded in producing works which we sometimes, I will not say copy, but which have influenced very largely some of the work of our own day. We have got something like £12,000 available from the Jarvis Bequest, apart from other payments which should be made in accordance with the directions of his will. I was of opinion, and am still of opinion, that the Council have done what they consider was the wish of Mr. Jarvis. But there was the little word "or" which I have referred to—a very important word in this connection. I consider that we might have devoted £9,000 to wiping out that wretched overdraft at the bank, and have devoted the remainder to such prizes and scholarships as the residuary trustees might have desired. That is the only item on which I have ventured to differ from the Council, and I endeavoured to get their resolution rescinded, but was not successful.—Coming to the finances, on page 45 the Report says: "The Auditors have framed their Report in such a form as to give the members an independent statement of the general financial position of the Royal Institute." The reason for the Report's taking this special form was that the professional accountant—who I know does his work exceedingly well, as a professional accountant does—renders the accounts necessarily from the strictly professional point of view of an accountant, and not in such a way as to make them understandable

by outsiders. In the Hon. Auditors' Report, the financial position of the Institute is given clearly in a few words. I have been an Auditor myself, and therefore have the greater pleasure in bestowing a word of commendation on the work of Mr. Hudson and Mr. Burt. Their Report gives us a little more information than we had last year; and I hope that the same two Auditors may act for us next year, and give us a still more illuminating report. Passing to page 51, the Library statistics, the figures giving the attendances of readers and the number of books issued on loan speak eloquently for the value of the Library—no higher commendation could be desired by those who were instrumental in its foundation.—I have had occasion in years past to make some comments upon our officials, and since I have been a member of the Council I have had a better opportunity to appreciate their worth. You all know Mr. MacAlister, and those who have had occasion to ask him questions concerning the work of the Institute must have noticed the extraordinary grasp which he has of the details of that work, and will agree with me that it would be extremely difficult to meet a more courteous, a more gentlemanly and better-informed Secretary than Mr. MacAlister. I am sure it will be felt that that commendation is not at all too strong for the work he does for the Institute. Then we have Mr. Tayler. Whatever question you ask him he answers it directly, for he also has the whole of the details at his fingers' ends, and I trust that his health will be better, and that he will be with us many more years to give us the benefit of his knowledge and his courtesy. I have already referred indirectly to the work of the Library, because you will at once see that the success of the Library is due to a large extent to Mr. Dircks. The whole essence and value of a Librarian is that he shall have some knowledge of the particular book you desire on any subject. If you want to look up any particular subject, Mr. Dircks knows what sort of work you want and where to lay his hand upon it. I think you will agree with me in regard to Mr. Dircks that he is an official who we hope will be with us for a long time to come. The work of Mr. Northover is exemplified in the JOURNAL of the Institute. To mention only a detail of his editorial duties, those of us who have made, as I am doing now, a somewhat rambling speech in this room will agree that their thanks are due to Mr. Northover for the literary excellence with which these disjointed sentences are served up in the JOURNAL; and the longer he is with us the more he understands what we meant to say, and particularly what it is best to omit. Now with regard to our younger officials, those who in due course must necessarily succeed to the high positions, though I hope it will be many years before they do so, I trust they will look upon their seniors as examples of what should be in the way of officialism at the Institute, and that we shall have the benefit of their assistance for many years to come.

Mr. W. R. DAVIDGE [A.]: We all owe Mr. Woodward very sincere gratitude for his annual exposition, and I, for one, shall miss it on his promotion to the higher position on the Council. But if he will continue to give us his annual explanations and criticisms we shall be the better for it. It is only two years ago that I pointed out the danger of letting one individual acquire the prescriptive right to criticise or do anything of that sort. Mr. Woodward has, after twenty years, acquired that prescriptive right, and I think he may be looked upon, as he wishes to be looked upon, as an "ancient light"! In any case, we wish him every happiness in the easement which he has acquired on the Council, and we hope he will be able to do as good work there as he has done outside. As far as my criticism is con-

cerned, I should like to associate myself with every word Mr. Woodward has said as to our thanks being due to the Council and officers for their painstaking labours on our behalf. With regard to the general Report, I shall say little or nothing. But there are one or two points that I should like to emphasise, and which should be made clear in this Annual Report. One looks to find in annual reports a clear and succinct history of the year's work, and there are one or two things which can be made clearer still. For instance, under the heading "Registration" we read "Legal and constitutional difficulties made it necessary to lay before the members a proposal to obtain the Privy Council's sanction for a Supplemental Charter and By-Laws conferring the necessary powers on the Royal Institute." There is nothing in the Report as it stands to suggest that the proposal embodied the amalgamation of another society, and I think, in common fairness to those who come after, that that point should be made clear.

The PRESIDENT: Will Mr. Davidge tell us the words he desires inserted?

Mr. DAVIDGE: After the words "Royal Institute" I suggest the words "to amalgamate the two bodies."

The PRESIDENT observing that there was no objection to the proposal, the matter was put to the vote and carried.

Mr. DAVIDGE: With regard to the Jarvis Bequest, I think Mr. Woodward's remarks are perfectly sound, and should be considered by the members of the general body in addition to the Council. The bequest was specifically to be devoted to the best advantage of the Institute, and it is an open question whether a scholarship at Rome is to the best advantage of the Institute, although there can be no cavilling at any action which the Council or the trustees decide to take on the matter.

Mr. MAURICE B. ADAMS [F.]: As I understand it, the Council are not so free in the matter as would appear. When I was on the Council this question always appeared to be blocked by the unanimous opinion of the trustees. The Council could not do as they wished. When we embarked upon the expense of the alterations of the premises we thought that a considerable portion of the Jarvis Bequest could be devoted to this purpose. Subsequently the Council found they were not so free, and they were obliged to agree to what the trustees appeared to insist upon.

Mr. ALBERT W. MOORE [F.]: Who are the trustees?

The PRESIDENT: Sir Aston Webb, Mr. Searles Wood, and Mr. Pasmore, solicitor.

Mr. DAVIDGE: I want specially to emphasise the question of finance. I have looked through all the accounts of the Institute published in the JOURNAL for the last nine years, and plotted them for my own information on paper. The diagram [see p. 523] proved so instructive and I got so much information from it that I thought other members might like to see where we come from as regards finance, where we have travelled, and where we are going to. The thick line at the top represents the income, the double line at the bottom represents the ordinary expenditure. At one or two places there have been items of extraordinary expenditure, which are plotted more lightly—for instance, the legal expenses connected with various Acts of Parliament. Roughly speaking, up to three years ago there was always a surplus, varying from £1,500 to £1,800 per annum; practically the amount of the examination fees received from the Students could be put into the bank year by year. And eventually we were able to go a long way towards the purchase of these premises, largely through that examination income which was coming in steadily and which was

increasing with the reputation of the Institute. The number of Students also was steadily increasing up to the period when, for some reason or other, it was decided to revise the Charter and introduce another class by non-examination. Instantly the effect was felt on the income. That upper dotted line should have been followed and led us now to somewhere over £13,000, but it has immediately dropped; and the examination fees in one year, 1908-9, dropped from £1,766 to £1,358—a very serious drop indeed. It must be remembered that the additional income from the new class, which started when we were lowest, has not by any means reached the figure it would otherwise have reached; it is more than £1,500 less than we should have had if the ordinary average had continued. That is very important to remember. Let us turn to the other side. Last year we had the purchase of the new premises, and that involved the selling of our investments. We lost straight away an income of £800 a year from our various investments, so that in forming a comparison of the ordinary income we must exclude the Licentiate's subscriptions. The income from 1903 was rising steadily without sign of giving way, but when the Revision of the Charter came it dropped immediately, and when it was settled it dropped again. There was a slight reaction afterwards, and we came to the question of disposing of our shares, and then again our income dropped down £800 or so. There is no saying where it will go next year. If you turn to the expenditure in the diagram—I mean ordinary expenditure—you see it is an absolutely steady line; the line is rather under than over the parallel; that is to say, the surplus was increasing; the whole of that space between the dotted lines would have been surplus, namely, £2,500. I think everyone will bear with me that that is so. The expenditure in 1909 went up owing to legal expenses; but on the top of that came all this additional expenditure. I am ignoring for the moment the expenditure on the Town Planning Conference—I shall ask you to give us full details of that enormous expenditure, for I think every member is entitled to know the details of the way in which that huge amount has been piled up—I want to deal simply with our ordinary expenditure. With the addition of a larger number of members naturally the running expenses of the Institute went up, although the receipts went down. A large portion of it is due to the rent. That will be reduced somewhat when—and if—the Architectural Union Company declare a dividend. But in the ordinary course it cannot go down much below this line. The lower dotted line shows what the ordinary expenditure would have been *plus* additional expenditure due to increased staff and, of course, increased cost of the upkeep of the premises. The Licentiate class will close shortly, and the "income" line from that source cannot go up; it must follow the fortunes of the other line below. It seems to me we are getting into a very parlous condition indeed, and no one can prophesy what is going to happen next.

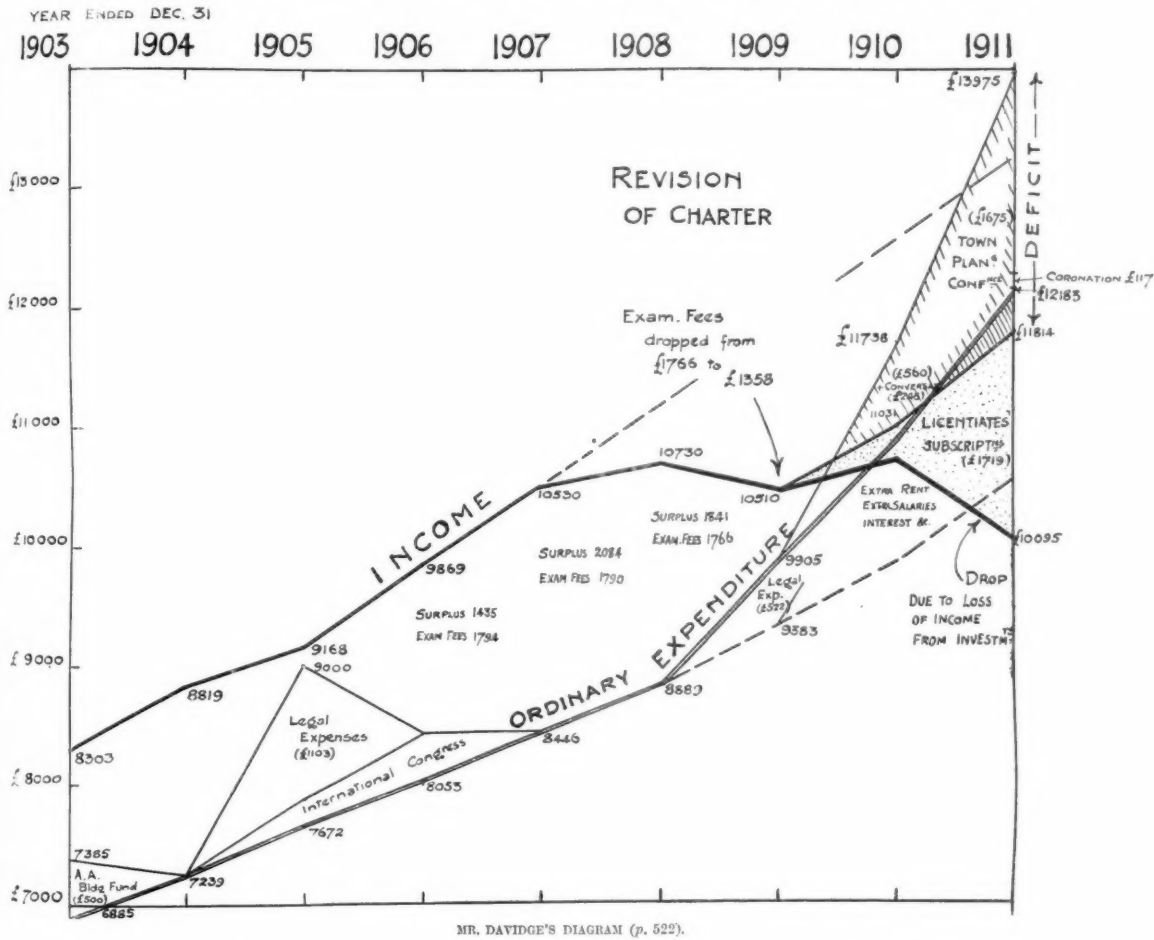
The PRESIDENT: The estimated balance of income over expenditure is £1,009, yet according to your diagram our expenditure is greater than our income.

Mr. DAVIDGE: The Auditors themselves, from the tone of their Report, realise the serious condition of affairs, and every member of the Institute must also realise that we are in a very dangerous position indeed. The ship we are in is a very fine ship, but we are driving full speed ahead to somewhere we do not know. I am on the fore-castle as a simple "look-out" man, and I see some danger ahead. The Auditors and you, Mr. President, are on the bridge, and you can do what you please with my warning. We have to reconsider our

financial position very seriously. In Mr. Woodward's interesting statement as to the number of members he omitted, and perhaps for very good reason, to point to the number of Students. And it is very strange that if you turn to the last three Annual Reports you will not find in any of them mention of the number of Students, and for obvious reasons. In the last published numbers, in 1908, there were 961 Students on the roll. Since then there has been a steady drop to the present number, 377. What does that mean? It

registered as Students during the three preceding years. Notification of this fact will be found in the KALENDAR at the head of the Register of Students, p. 300. The 377 names Mr. Davidge referred to represent only the number of Students who have qualified for the Register from November 1908 to June 1911.

Mr. DAVIDGE: I can leave the matter there with the President. But we must have an account of this huge pile on the top of our heavy expenses. We must know



means that for the future the examination fees, from that class at any rate, will be very much in jeopardy.

The SECRETARY explained that up to three years ago it had been the practice to print in the KALENDAR the names of all those who had qualified as Students since the Register was started in 1890. But this had reached a very deceptive figure, as it evidently included a very large number who had no intention of going on with the examinations and presenting themselves for the Final. The Council therefore decided to publish in the KALENDAR the names only of those who had been

where that £2,300 for town planning has gone to. And I would point out that we have had Conferences before which did not cost anything like this. The Council in this case voted £500 for the Conference; it was, no doubt, very kind of them, but we as members have something to say to it when our property has to be disposed of for purposes like that. I am at one about town planning, but I am against the finance which allows expenditure to be piled up without a word from the general body. The Auditors' Report says that an overdraft was obtained for the purpose of paying ex-

penses in connection with alterations and for the Town Planning Conference. You will find that the resolution authorising that overdraft (JOURNAL, Vol. XVIII., p. 356) said nothing about the Town Planning Conference. We should have been outside our province to get any such overdraft. The serious point is that the overdraft is £9,000, whereas the express resolution of this General Meeting was that the overdraft should not exceed £7,000. I will not ask for an explanation now; but it will have to come. There are one or two other points of very great interest. In last year's estimate we were expecting an income from the Architectural Union Company of £930. That has not been declared, although the accounts say we have spent £1,740 on rent to the Company. But, thanks to the courtesy of Mr. Tayler, I understand tonight that we have not spent £1,740, that the account is less than that, and that the £1,543 which the Auditors refer to as still outstanding is part of that £1,740. That is reassuring, but I think these statements should be made perfectly clear. The £1,740 has not all been spent, and these sundry creditors include the large item of £1,543. If there is an item of £1,543 which can be put down as sundries, we have a right, as the General Body, to know what the sundries mean without the Auditors having to point it out. There is another point with regard to the Trust Funds, which I need only mention, and that is that the Jarvis Fund should be mentioned in the account, although the Institute has no control over the fund. And there was a sum of £500 left by Mr. Colls which has apparently been transferred to the Benevolent Society.

The PRESIDENT: The Colls Fund of £500 was not left to the Institute. It was bequeathed to the President of the Institute for the time being, and was to be applied at his discretion—at his "absolute discretion," to quote the terms of the bequest—either for educational purposes or for the purposes of the Architects' Benevolent Society. It was a difficult thing to decide, and I took the Vice-Presidents into consultation in the matter. After long and careful consideration we decided—and perhaps I took the principal part in the decision—to devote the money to educational purposes, and it has been placed at the disposal of the Architectural Association to be used for the purposes of architectural education.

Mr. HERBERT SHEPHERD [A.]: There is no allusion to the Colls Fund in the Report. It was promised at the last Annual General Meeting. I asked about it, and the Chairman of the meeting said that it came in too late, and that it would be dealt with in the next Annual Report.

Mr. DAVIDGE: I have nothing to say about the President's decision; I am sure it is a wise one. But in common fairness we ought to have these things before us. We have every trust in you, Sir, and in the Council; but there must be nothing kept in the dark. If everything is brought clearly before us, you will have our wholehearted support. But when we go full speed ahead in the darkness we ask you to switch the searchlight on and let us see in what direction we are going.

The PRESIDENT: How it happened that it has not been announced I am afraid I do not know. We have a great deal to do at the Institute, and if it was not announced it was because of an oversight, not from any intention of keeping the matter in the dark. It was announced to the Association that it had been received.

Mr. DAVIDGE: Will you put it into the Report?

The PRESIDENT: Yes, if you wish.*

* A paragraph dealing with this matter has been inserted in the Report, see p. 467.

Mr. DAVIDGE: Now we have got so far, we can consider in what direction we are going, and I can leave it to the meeting, specially emphasising those two or three points, that the Students are rapidly decreasing, the general income decreasing, and our expenditure rapidly increasing. As to the methods of dealing with the situation, that is another matter, and I suggest that a special Finance Committee should be elected by this Institute. At present, presumably, they are appointed by the Institute Council. They should at any rate report to us, as well as the Auditors. The finances, after all, are the pulse of the Institute, and unless that is healthy, everything else will fail. What we insist upon is, that the finances must be kept under careful control, that we should have capable men in charge of them, and that they should lay the whole facts before us.

Mr. PERKS: Should I be in order in moving that a Finance Committee be elected in the same way as the Standing Committees?

The PRESIDENT: I do not think you would be in order. The management of the funds of the Institute is one of the matters for which the Council is responsible under the Charter. The Finance Committee is a Committee of the Council; they meet very frequently, and are always keeping us in check.

The SECRETARY read Clause 16 of the Charter, dealing with the management of income.

Mr. PERKS: I should like to call attention to one matter only in this Report. It is on page 45, in the paragraph relating to the new London bridges. I should like to add to that paragraph, after Dr. Burnett's name, the following words: "with the result that the original scheme of the Corporation of London, which was opposed by your Council, was sanctioned by Parliament." As it stands at present the story is only half told. With regard to St. Paul's Bridge it is all over and settled now, and we have nothing to do with the merits of the case. But it is the fact that this Institute, through its Council, took a very prominent part in opposing the Bill of the Corporation of London. It presented a strongly-worded petition to Parliament against the scheme as one which was not satisfactory. The Bill was referred back because Parliament were led to believe that it was a bad scheme and that no architects had reported upon it. The Corporation then submitted their scheme to three eminent architects, who reported unanimously in its favour. The result was that the Bill went back to Parliament, and was carried by a large majority.

The PRESIDENT explained that the Council endeavoured from the first to induce the Corporation to take the best possible architectural advice before deciding upon their scheme. This was really all that was asked for, and as soon as the three eminent architects were appointed the Council were perfectly satisfied to leave the matter in their hands.

Mr. PERKS, continuing, read extracts from the Institute petition and from a letter of the President's in *The Times* condemning the Corporation's proposals, and went on to criticise the inaction of the Council in not attending before the Committee of the House of Commons and giving evidence against the scheme.

Mr. J. DOUGLASS MATHEWS [P.] expressed his great regret at the course taken by the Council. At his own instigation, he said, as a member of the Bridge House Estates Committee, some three years ago, when the scheme was quite in its initial stage, the Committee had consented to receive a deputation from the Institute on the question. The deputation, consisting of architects, painters, and sculptors—all of them professional members or Honorary Associates of the Institute—attended, and were informed that so far nothing had been done as regards the selec-

tion of an architect, but that an engineer had been employed to plan the general route, and his scheme had been approved. The Committee assured the deputation that before anything of an architectural character was decided upon, the Institute should be consulted. Then began this unfortunate opposition, which had had the effect of alienating their friends on the Committee. He was very sorry for it, because there was no desire on the part of the Corporation to do anything but what was perfectly right. Mr. Mathews concluded by expressing the hope that the paragraph would be eliminated entirely from the Report, especially as the Committee had again reported to the House of Commons in favour of the Bill, which was carried by a large majority. Failing that, he should propose that the words suggested by Mr. Perks be added.

Mr. PERKS repeating his proposition to add the words above reported, Mr. DOUGLASS MATHEWS said he should prefer that the entire paragraph be omitted.

Mr. WOODWARD, Mr. BRODIE, and Mr. MAURICE B. ADAMS deprecated further discussion on the point, and in the end, the President deciding that no definite proposition was before the meeting, the matter dropped.

Mr. BRODIE referred to the terrible event in the Atlantic, and expressed the pleasure they all felt at seeing the President back again in the Chair after his recent long journey. Adverting to the proposals during the past year for further extending the Charter and By-laws, he said that such changes involved the expenditure of a great deal of money, and the Institute was not in a position at the moment to bear such expense. Further, the Associates were agitating for additional representation on the Council, and this would mean an alteration of the By-laws, and possibly of the Charter as well. Then, again, the Licentiates were suggesting that they also should be represented on the governing body, although they were only a passing class and would come to an end in a few years. The Institute wanted members, not Licentiates, and the latter had no title to be represented on the Council. He entirely disagreed with this idea of further representation of Associates and Licentiates on the Council. It was a misdescription. The Council represented the Institute; the Council were elected by the votes of the Associates as well as of the Fellows, and he ventured to think that the votes of the Associates far outnumbered those of the Fellows at those elections. Therefore, if figures went for anything, the Fellows sitting on the Council represented the Associates more than the Fellows. It would be wise, he thought, for a year or two to report how many Fellows and how many Associates respectively voted at the annual elections. This could easily be done, as different envelopes were used for the various classes of voters. He was sure it would be found that many more Associates voted than Fellows.

Mr. HAMDEN W. PRATT [F.] said that it might be gathered from the reference to the London Master Builders' Association and the Sub-Contractors' Agreement on page 53 that there was no agreement actually in existence. But that contract was printed in the Master Builders' Handbook, and to his knowledge was used now. With regard to the donations of books, he asked if new members on joining the Institute were now requested, as used to be the case, to make a donation to the Institute. Looking at the number of donations to the Library, it did not seem that much was obtained from that source. Referring to the accounts, he asked what the item "Contributions to Allied Societies" meant.

The SECRETARY: The subscriptions of members of Allied Societies are credited in full, and we remit one-fourth under By-law 82.

Mr. PRATT: With regard to the omission from the Report of the number of Students, could not the ex-

planation which has been given to us by the Secretary be embodied in the Report? As it has been usual to publish the numbers, it would be better to explain why it has been dropped.

Mr. ALAN E. MUNBY [A.]: It seems to me that all this heavy expenditure is being crammed into a short space of time, and I think coming generations might be expected to bear some part of it. I hope the Institute will not allow itself to suffer from panic legislation in the matter of the restriction of funds. Speaking for the Science Committee, we are asking the Council to help us in one or two schemes which have been placed before them and which we hope will be considered in regard to finance. I should be very sorry if, on account of a sudden increase of expenditure, which might be spread over a term of years, we were denied grants from sources which in the ordinary way might have been tapped.

Mr. H. A. SATCHELL [F.]: As one of those responsible for drawing up the Report of the Practice Committee, may I say that Mr. Pratt is correct in saying that the paragraph concerning an agreement used by the Master Builders' Association is not quite accurate. They have a form of agreement, but it is not satisfactory, and they are trying to improve it, just as the Institute is trying to improve its Conditions of Contract. We might say "a standard form" or "a new form of agreement."

The correction was agreed to.

Mr. G. ERNEST NIELD [F.]: I notice in the Report that the Council are dealing with the matters of professional conduct and professional charges. There are a large number of house agents who are doing architects' work, and I think this is a matter which should be gone into fully by the Institute. In my own practice I have met with more than one house agent who, thoroughly incompetent to do the work, has handed it over to a builder, whose crude efforts must, in the end, disgust the public. The agent in these cases can afford to take any fee: for if he eventually gets none at all he is not out of pocket, having done no work; this leads the client to expect no fee if he abandons his project. It seems to me that registration is the only safeguard left to us; and the notice given of it in the Report is not so satisfactory as one would expect. We know that the scheme of combining the Society of Architects and the Institute is practically dead, but nothing definite is said as to what is being done about registration. I think the three—professional conduct, professional charges, and registration—ought to be considered together.

Mr. EDWARD GREENOP [A.]: With reference to this £1,700, may I ask whether the Council were from time to time informed by the Executive Committee of the Town Planning Conference that the £500 voted was being exceeded, and whether the Council sanctioned the excess expenditure; or whether the matter was allowed to drift until the Council was informed that £1,700 had been spent? At the International Congress of 1906 we actually made a profit of nearly £60, according to the balance-sheet published in the *Transactions* of the Congress. That Congress was a very successful gathering. We had many distinguished visitors from all parts of the civilised world, and we treated them very handsomely. We made nearly £60 profit, part of which went to the Architects' Benevolent Society. Compare the finances of that Congress with those of the recent Town Planning Conference. There has been apparently some want of consideration in this matter. I think it would be well if we had a rule here, as they have in some other bodies, that no extra expenditure exceeding a certain moderate amount should be incurred without the general body first being informed and their sanction obtained to such expenditure. This would relieve the Council of a great re-

sponsibility, and put the responsibility on the shoulders of the general body.

The PRESIDENT: But you would get nothing done.

Mr. GREENOP: We should not want the Council to come to us for anything, say, up to £100, but if they are to have unlimited scope in extraordinary expenditure, we may be placed again in the same position as now.

The PRESIDENT: According to the Charter, the Council have the sole management of the funds of the Institute. If you want to take this out of their hands the Charter will have to be altered. I do not think it workable.

Mr. DAVIDGE: We seem to have borrowed money for the Town Planning Conference, and to have disposed of part of our income and investments for this purpose without the vote of the general body. It is irregular, and the Secretary, I think, will bear that out.

Mr. GREENOP: There is another point. I notice there is attached to this Report a little slip about the President's portrait. There is also an item in the accounts of £58 14s. for the last President's portrait. It is an open secret that voluntary subscriptions towards the portrait necessitate the payment of a certain sum by the Institute every two years to make up the balance. I think that is a little unfortunate. There is no doubt we ought all to subscribe to this fund and render such a course unnecessary. But we do not, and I have to confess that I am one of the mean persons who do not. I think the time has come when the Institute funds could very well bear that expense, and then we should not have to go through this undignified course. We might have a recognised sum, and then we should get a greater equality of merit in the portraits, which is very desirable. If the Council would bring that matter forward perhaps members would support it. We shall not, I hope, always be in this state of poverty. One great point which had been advanced for the Town Planning Conference was that we had had "a week in the sun." A week in the sun is very nice, but if you have to shiver in the cold and shade, in starvation and poverty, for two years to pay for it, it is dearly bought.

Mr. SHEPHERD: May I refer to one point with regard to the accounts on page 56, where we are taking into consideration the assets of the Institute. Under the heading of Investments there is an item "at cost: 1,037 shares Architectural Union Company, £15,251." But as a matter of fact to acquire those shares the Institute had to pay in hard cash the sum of something like £1,350, and that £1,350 is actually included in the next item "as per last balance-sheet, £19,216." I suggest that that item of £1,350, which was the cost to the Institute of getting the Architectural Union Shares, should be distinctly stated as a portion of the cost. I think it was impossible to have bought out the interests in a better or more advantageous way. But the figures should have been separated last year, and I still think it should be shown here, because otherwise we do not realise that those shares cost us £1,350 more. I suggest to the Council that a better way to lay this financial statement before members would be to put it in the form of a profit and loss account. You have the Library shown, and the JOURNAL, and all sorts of items, and unless you show these things separately you do not see where you are standing in regard to profit or loss on the item. With regard to the Town Planning Conference, I do not know whether the Hon. Auditors could tell me what I want to ask. It was stated last year that the estimated value of the sale of publications was £105, reducing the actual cost to the Institute of the Town Planning Conference to a balance of £1,395. As a matter of fact, that is the figure given, but it is more than that. The cost was put down last year at £1,500.

The SECRETARY: That was the balance unpaid. The estimated extraordinary expenditure on the Town Planning Conference to be paid in the year 1911 was £1,500. There has to be added to that the £560 which figured in the expenditure account for 1910. This brings up the total estimated cost to £2,060.

Mr. SHEPHERD: How much did the sale of the publications on the Town Planning Conference gain us in the year 1911?

The SECRETARY: The sale of the volume of *Transactions* brought us in £287 7s.

Mr. SHEPHERD: We seem to be overdone with "rough" estimates. It is not the Auditors but the Council who submit estimates, and it is only in the last two years that we have had to put up with "rough" ones. I think this is objectionable. We ought to know pretty well where we stand, and it is desirable we should have more light on the subject. On the Town Planning Conference you have £1,395 as an estimated deficit last year, after the whole thing was closed, and yet this year you show an expenditure of £1,675.

The SECRETARY: The accounts were by no means closed when last year's estimate was prepared. To mention one item alone—the *Transactions* of the Conference. The work was still in the press, and all the accounts for printing, illustrations, binding, and distribution had to come in. In the end, the estimate appears to have been exceeded by about £175.

Mr. PERCY B. TUBBS [F.]: What does the JOURNAL and the KALENDAR cost the Institute after deducting the amount received for advertisements?

The SECRETARY: After deducting the amounts received for advertisements and sales the cost to the Institute is about £1,350.

Mr. TUBBS: The sales of the JOURNAL and KALENDAR are mixed up with the other publications, and it is not clear how much should be credited to each. When does the advertising contract expire?

The SECRETARY: In about five years.

Mr. ELKINGTON: There is an item under the head of Extraordinary Expenditure, "Expenses *re* Licentiate's Class, £40 9s. 2d.," what were these expenses?

The SECRETARY: Expenses of meetings held throughout the country, issuing circulars, advertising, etc.

Mr. ELKINGTON: In the Report it says there are 1,834 Licentiatees who have been elected. In the accounts it says 1,638 Licentiatees paid a guinea, and there is one, apparently, who is in arrear.

The SECRETARY: That was last year. The subscriptions of those elected since January would not appear in this financial statement, which is for the year 1911.

The PRESIDENT, replying to some of the points raised during the discussion, said: It is a little difficult to explain the excessive expenditure on the Conference. No one anticipated it was going to cost as much as it did. The Exhibition was an especially heavy item, and grew to be a much bigger affair than was at first intended. But everyone will admit that it turned out to be a very fine Exhibition. The Conference, too, was a very great success—and to make it a success it had to be well done. If we had to do it over again no doubt we should be able to do it more economically. It came upon us with a rush, and though it was done largely by voluntary help, yet the expenses mounted up; I am afraid that until the end no one knew exactly what it had cost. Architects perhaps will appreciate the position better than anybody. There are still some receipts to come in from the sale of publications. I think that is all I can tell you about the Town Planning Conference. I may add that these accounts have all been very carefully audited.

Mr. DAVIDGE: Was there a rough estimate prepared

before the Town Planning Conference in fixing subscriptions?

The PRESIDENT: Yes, there was an estimate, which turned out to be, like many architects' estimates, rather unreliable. But I think the profession has got by the Conference more than full value for its money. If it had not been for the fact that we were buying Union Company's shares, and selling stock at a loss, we should never have heard anything about this deficit. But now we are faced with this diagram, which does not give a correct picture of our financial position, though Mr. Davidge has brought it before us with the best intentions. We are now housed in premises which are practically our own freehold, and are worth £10,000 or £50,000, and the only charge on them is the £9,000 overdraft at the bank and £4,000 mortgage, making a debt of £13,000, which we shall pay off by degrees. Instead of putting our savings to a reserve account to provide for a building fund, as we have done in past years, we shall have in the future an annual surplus towards paying off the debt. As regards donations to the Library, there used to be a custom for new members to read either a paper or to give books to the Library, but the practice was dropped many years ago.

Mr. DAVIDGE: There is the point about the authority for the overdraft.

The PRESIDENT: I do not think anyone can be blamed for that. There was an overdraft of £7,000 for the premises authorised some eighteen months ago. This £7,000 was to meet a specified debt which had been incurred in altering the premises. And we had other expenses in connection with the Town Planning Conference which had not been foreseen.

Mr. DAVIDGE: Had the Council authority to get the overdraft?

The PRESIDENT: The Council had authority from the General Body.

Mr. SHEPHERD: The Council had authority to get an overdraft of £7,000, and immediately afterwards they obtained a loan from the bankers of £2,000. With all respect to our Auditors, to call that sum an overdraft of £9,000 is a mistake. It should have been an overdraft of £7,000 and a loan from the bankers of £2,000.

Mr. ELKINGTON: It is a dangerous precedent, and I do not see how you can reconcile it with the limited overdraft sanctioned by the General Body.

The SECRETARY: Under the Charter and By-laws, as I understand them, it was not necessary to come to the General Body for permission to overdraw our account, but it was necessary to get the sanction of the General Body to charge the property of the Institute and deposit the shares and leases as security.

Mr. JOHN HUDSON [F.], *Hon. Auditor*: Mr. Davidge drew attention to the words in the Auditors' Report "excess to be applied steadily to the reduction of the loan from the bank which was negotiated in 1911." I think you should insert the word "and" after 1911, so that it should run "and for the purpose of paying."

The further proceedings at the meeting are recorded in the Minutes published in the last issue.

Books received.

The Principles of Structural Mechanics; treated without the use of Higher Mathematics, by Percy J. Waldram, Lecturer on Structural Mechanics, Central School of Arts & Crafts. 80. Lond. 1912. 7s. 6d. net. [B. T. Batsford.]
Modern Practical Design, by G. Wooliscroft Rhead, R.E. 80. Lond. 1912. 7s. 6d. net. [B. T. Batsford.]
Modern Cottage Architecture, by Maurice B. Adams. 2nd ed. 40. Lond. 1912. 10s. net. [B. T. Batsford.]
A Second Series of over Sixty Designs for Family Homes, by Fifty Architects. 40. Lond. 1912. 1s. net. [William J. Baker, 57 Carey Street, Lincoln's Inn.]

Mr. Cram's Paper.

Among the guests of the Council Dinner Club on the occasion of Mr. Cram's Paper were the American Ambassador (the Hon. Whitelaw Reid), the Earl of Plymouth, Sir Alfred Keogh, K.C.B. (Rector of the Imperial College), Sir Edward Bask (Chairman of Convocation, London University), Mr. Edward Warren, F.S.A. [F.], Mr. G. Gilbert Scott (architect of Liverpool Cathedral), and Mr. Cecil Brewer [F.]. All the guests were present afterwards at the reading of the Paper. Mr. Cram had crossed the Atlantic specially for his Paper, and was able to stay here but a few days—arriving on Saturday the 18th and starting for the return journey the following Wednesday morning. His audience at the Institute was a full and very appreciative one. The Paper, with the descriptions of the illustrative lantern slides, occupied over an hour and a half in delivery, but the author held the interest of his audience throughout and was enthusiastically applauded at the close. The *Architects' and Builders' Journal* describes it as "in a literary sense one of the finest Papers ever read at the Institute not only in its substance but in the admirable manner of its delivery." Besides the lantern illustrations Mr. Cram had brought over a large collection of drawings and photographs representative of the works of the various architects referred to in the Paper. These were hung in the West Gallery and are to remain on view till the 1st June.

London Street Name-plates.

Reference was made in the Annual Report of the Art Standing Committee [JOURNAL, p. 471] to the arrangements in progress at the Institute for holding a conference with representatives of the civic authorities of London to discuss the subject of the uniform treatment of street name-plates in London. The conference took place on the 22nd inst., Mr. Ernest Newton, A.R.A., in the Chair, and was attended by members of the Art Standing Committee and by representatives of most of the borough Councils of London. There was a free interchange of views among those present, and it was generally agreed that some uniformity of treatment is desirable. Some of the London street name-plates are cast iron, many are enamelled iron, others are of zinc or tile; but the most common system of all, and the most objectionable in the view of the Art Committee, is to paint the name of the street on the bricks of the house. The type of plate most generally favoured was one of plain cast-iron, with raised letters in old Roman type. The suggestion was also made, and met with considerable approval, that a competition should be promoted for a design for a good, efficient name-plate for uniform use. Neither of these two proposals was definitely adopted, but the representatives of the municipalities agreed to report to their councils and to meet the Institute again. Needless to say, the Art Committee do not advocate an

ornate or elaborate name-plate; their view is that if it is simple and thoroughly efficient for its purpose it will be sufficiently artistic.

Town Planning : Proposed Chair at London University.

A proposal has been made, and is now receiving influential support, for the establishment of a professorship of town planning at London University. The idea originated with Mr. John Burns, who suggested at the Town Planning Exhibition, held at Crosby Hall some time ago, that some wealthy person should endow such a chair; and since then Mr. Herbert Warren, of the Garden City Association, has several times urged its desirability. The matter was at first referred to the executive committee of the Association, and now a strong committee is being formed to further it. It is intended, if the proposed Chair is founded, that architectural students should have the opportunity of attending the lectures on town planning as part of their professional studies. Instruction is already given in this subject at Liverpool University by Professor Adshead and at Birmingham by Mr. Raymond Unwin, and it is strongly felt that students in London should have the same facilities. Sir Philip Magnus, M.P. for London University, Sir William Collins, and Sir Henry Miers, the principal, have expressed great interest in the scheme. It is supported also by Sir Aston Webb, R.A., and Mr. John Burns has offered several valuable suggestions. The promoters consider that a professorship at London University should have an endowment of £600 a year, and a lectureship £300. The progress of the scheme will depend on the success in raising funds, and pending the formation of the committee any suggestions or offers of assistance will be welcomed by the Secretary, Garden City Association, 3 Gray's Inn Place, W.C.

The London Society : Appointment of the Council : Paper by Mr. Raffles Davison.

The London Society, whose aim is to make London a perfect and beautiful city by the concentration and unification of existing forces, and to engender a true civic pride in its citizens, held its inaugural meeting on the 23rd inst. in the Galleries of the Royal Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street. The Earl of Plymouth presided, and at the opening of the proceedings the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. J. Leaning, announced that the following had been appointed members of the Council: Sir George Alexander, Sir J. Wolfe Barry [F.], Sir Thomas Brock, R.A. [H.A.], Mr. Reginald Blomfield, A.R.A. [F.], Mr. W. D. Caröe [H.A.], Mr. J. M. Dent, Sir Alfred East, R.A. [H.A.], Sir Douglas Fox, Mr. Thomas Gautrey, Mr. C. H. St. John Hornby, Sir J. Prichard Jones, Mr. Philip Norman, Sir E. J. Poynter [H.F.], Sir Aston Webb, C.B., C.V.O., R.A. [F.]; representing the Royal Academy, Sir Frank Short, R.A.; representing the Royal Institute of British Architects, Mr. Leonard Stokes,

P.R.I.B.A.; representing the Royal Society of Sculptors, Sir George Frampton, R.A. [H.A.], and representing the Mansion House Council on Health and Housing, Mr. C. J. Allan.

The Earl of Plymouth said that some persons might be inclined to think that the London Society had taken upon itself the task of guidance or interference with the authorities who rightly controlled the London buildings and improvements. He wished emphatically to state that that was not the promoters' intention. But as they believed that all good citizens should take an intelligent interest in the growth and changing developments of the capital of their country, so did they wish to stimulate and to focus that interest, to give the public some guidance, and to help them to exercise that legitimate influence that they ought to exercise upon the mark which our own generation was leaving upon the planning and the stones of the Metropolis. They knew how, in days gone by, in the small community of Florence, the citizens used to assemble together in their chief square and approve or disapprove, by show of hands or by some such simple method, the design of the proposed buildings of their city. They could do that because their eyes had been trained to a sense of beauty from childhood, and all the inhabitants who took the trouble to examine and discuss the designs were competent to express an opinion. Of course, under present conditions, such a thing was impossible, but none the less it was useful and right that there should exist an organisation from which an expression of general artistic opinion could proceed with some weight and authority behind it. One other object might usefully be borne in mind. The guardians of public money, be that money derived from taxes or from rates, must hesitate to recommend large public expenditure if they were not assured of public approval and support. Such a Society as theirs might help to form public opinion, and might render great service to those who would willingly take the right course and initiate some splendid improvement if they were certain of such general support voiced by such a Society.

Mr. T. Raffles Davison [H.A.] read a Paper, illustrated by lantern views, on "London as it is and as it might be." Sketching the main lines of the future work of the Society, Mr. Davison said:—

In the forefront of everything is the encouragement of all schemes which will tend to make London a fine city as to health, beauty, and general amenity, and to stimulate the imagination of all its citizens as to the possibilities of its future. As a means to this, several specific lines of action are suggested:—

1. To advocate the establishment of a central authority which may ensure the continuance of a wise and far-seeing control over both the practical and artistic development of the city.
2. To advocate reform in the Building Acts, which will compel a proper consideration as between heights

* The Paper may be read *in extenso* in the current issue of the *British Architect*.

and widths of streets, and as to materials used. In foreign cities the question is much more considered, with happy results, so that the maximum of sunshine is secured in the street and in the home.

3. To obtain some better guiding rules as to building lines, and to watch their development, so that better architectural and economic results may be obtained.

4. To guard the amenities of our noble river and save it from degradation. There seems a grave risk at this moment that its fine northern embankment may be ruined by a seven-story hotel, built about one hundred yards in advance of the general line of frontage.

5. To secure the consideration of the artistic point of view in all works of borough or county councils, by means of an advisory art committee.

6. To work for a better and more adequately distributed park system, with a view to provision of future extension. And also to do all that is possible for the increase and extension of open spaces.

7. To secure the better opening up of good public buildings.

8. To insist on the completion of improvements and to oppose measures which prevent it.

9. To do all that is possible towards the co-ordination of all schemes and plans, which will gradually lead to the best general plan scheme for the whole city.

10. To endeavour to bring into a better method of order, decency, and design, all the various objects which are placed in the streets and open spaces, such as street lights, conveniences, shelters, kiosks, statues, &c. This might be defined as a sort of tidying-up process.

Anomalies such as never could exist except in this country may be named as follows:—

1. Local bodies with a right to veto any general scheme for London, which, however good as a whole, may be thought to damage small local interests.

2. The main body so absorbed in its manifold duties of the present that it has no time to stop and consider the future, with the result that until two years ago (with the exception of two imperative schemes, viz. Kingsway and Millbank) very little heed has been given to the future needs of London, or to the lines upon which it should develop.

3. Such improvements as are made are done for strictly utilitarian reasons in a strictly utilitarian way after great pressure.

4. Improvements which, by not being sufficiently comprehensive to include properties affected, as well as those contiguous to a new street, leave unlettable patches and ugly fringes of old buildings, which remain for sometimes 50 years as left.

5. Railways, not only originally allowed to devastate large tracts of central areas with their viaducts and yards, and stations, but also to neglect them deplorably, and increase their original ugliness.

6. Huge areas of slum property, which cannot be dealt with publicly, owing to exemption of such areas from the Town Planning Act and the failure of the Housing Acts. Nor privately owing to the obstinacy of fossilised owners who refuse to co-operate with those adjoining who may be willing to rebuild.

7. Untold waste of fine sites through bad access, etc., owing to want of co-operation between owners and authorities, resulting in the perpetuation of such districts as Soho and Covent Garden, hard by the most important and wealthy streets in London.

8. Great public buildings, such as the Central Criminal Court, the British Museum, the Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Wesleyan Hall, and the Westminster Cathedral, hidden away in narrow streets, and lost to public view.

9. The smoke question lost, and only half administered, in a tangle of vested manufacturing interests.

10. Advertisements scattered wildly anywhere, without reference to the interests of adjoining or opposite owners or public, because the Act regulating them is adoptive and not compulsory.

11. Narrow and unhealthy streets, made even more unhealthy by the power given to owners to erect high buildings in them, regardless of the width.

12. Perpetuation of bad alignments and projections in streets, because owners have power to do so, and it is no one's business to suggest public action to prevent it.

13. Buildings erected of the most fantastic design—most incongruous with their surroundings, and of materials of most vivid colours and unsuitable texture.

14. Costly new buildings rising where manifestly improvements will rapidly necessitate removal.

15. Parks in excess of requirements in some places, and entirely absent in others.

16. Both parks and squares closely barricading and obscuring the view, obstructing passage, and destroying all sense of freedom and space.

17. Streets obscured by permanent erections above and below ground, such as conveniences, kiosks, orderly boxes, cab shelters, ambulance sheds, and refuges, usually in the worst possible taste—cite Waterloo Bridge lamps.

18. Tree planting on a miniature scale, and even then usually without reference to surroundings—*cite* Hyde Park Corner.

19. The invasion of residential districts by manufacturing and commercial buildings, and *vice versa*, and an entire absence of any attempt at civic administrative or educational concentration.

20. And, lastly, a chaotic system of goods collection and delivery, whereby enormous waste is caused both in time and in the space occupied for goods yards.

As a mere business venture, said Mr. Davison, we should be ashamed to run London as it is now—a mass of complicated and conflicting organisations, a surging sea of struggling forces, pulling in all directions without firm, conclusive, and statesmanlike control. It is not economically sound as a matter of business, it is not decently attractive as a world show. We are a wealthy city, and are said to have spent twelve millions in sixteen years in public improvements. But the French spent fifty-three millions on Paris, and have earmarked thirty millions more. In 1907, tourists and travellers alone spent 120 millions in France in hotels, transportation, purchases, and amusements. What is fifty millions of capital to that? What proportion does our outlay bear to our vast size and great income? "As a great and noble embodiment of civic life, as the capital city of a vast Empire, London cannot stand comparison with many small cities of the world. The necessary sentiment is lacking. Can it be aroused? A distinguished writer said the other day: 'Everything noble, beautiful, and splendid that has ever been written, sung, painted, or done since the world began, has been born in sentiment, carried through by sentiment, and remembered by sentiment.' Shall that sentiment which ennobles, idealises, and inspires be lacking in the great and immediate necessities for the improvement and beautification of London?"

The Chair of Architecture, Manchester University.

Applications are invited for appointment to the Chair of Architecture at Manchester University, vacant through the resignation of Professor S. H. Capper [see p. 491]. The salary is £600 per annum. Particulars as to duties and conditions and forms of application may be obtained from the Registrar of the University on receipt of a stamped addressed foolscap envelope. Applications must be sent in not later than Tuesday, 18th June.

International Building Exhibition, Leipzig, 1913.

Particulars are to hand of the International Building Exhibition to be held from May to October next year at Leipzig under the patronage of the King of Saxony. The primary object of this the first International Exhibition devoted to building in all its branches, and especially dwelling-houses, is to demonstrate the progress which the art of building has made in the last twenty or thirty years. The exhibits will be arranged in sections as follows:

I. Architecture (8 groups).—(1) Town Building and Settlements; (2) Engineering Building Works; (3) Architectural Building Works; (4) The Art of Decorating and Furnishing Interiors; (5) Architectural Painting and Sculpture; (6) Gardens and Parks; (7) Cemeteries—Monumental Sculpture; (8) Monuments—The Care of Monuments—Home Preservation.

II. The Literature of Architecture and Building—Technical Educational Institutions—Office Requisites for Architects and Engineers.

III. Building Materials, their Manufacture or Preparation and Use (20 groups).

IV. Machines, Tools, and Apparatus used in Building (5 groups).

V. Sale and Purchase of Building Land: Building Finance; Estate Agencies; Insurances in connection with Dwelling Houses; Book-keeping for Builders and Architects (5 groups).

VI. Building Sanitation for Dwellings, Factories, and Streets; Protection of Workers from Injury, First Aid and other Provisions for their health and comfort; Precautions against Fire; Old Age and Invalid Insurance (6 groups).

VII. Gymnastics, Games and Sports.

VIII. Testing of Building Materials; Technical Demonstrations.

Applications for space, with detailed descriptions and sketches, must be sent to the offices of the Directorate, Windmühlenweg No. 1, Leipzig, on or before 1st October 1912.

St. Nicholas Priory, Exeter.

Some time back, the Governors of the Royal Albert Memorial, Exeter, referred to the Museum, Library, and Fine Arts Committee for their consideration the desirability of acquiring some ancient building of architectural interest to serve for the purpose of a local historical museum. In the course of their inquiries the Committee have ascertained that the ancient building of St. Nicholas Priory could probably be purchased for the city. This property, which the owners are prepared to sell, comprises some buildings in the Mint, Exeter; and what is generally regarded as the remains of

the old Benedictine monastery comprise the central portions of this block, portions of the ruins extending throughout the whole of the property. The owners are prepared to accept £850 and their costs of the purchase from the Council, and the Committee are of opinion that, quite apart from the question of establishing a local history museum, a building of this great historical and antiquarian interest should be purchased for the city and a suitable restoration effected.

The Priory of St. Nicholas may be considered the first of all the Monasteries in Exeter, having been founded by William the Conqueror as a dependency of his noble Abbey at Battle. The establishment soon grew in importance, as is amply proved by the fact that when, in 1346, water was brought by the Dean and Chapter of Exeter to the conduit in the Cathedral Close, one channel was reserved solely for the Priory of St. Nicholas. In 1812, when excavations were in progress for a cellar on the site of the Lady Chapel of the Monastery, the body of Lady Matilda Courtney was disinterred from its resting-place of four hundred years. At her decease, she left certain tenements in the High Street with the payment of 1*d.* to thirteen poor people yearly. It is curious that it was only the last of the priors who attained any dignity in the Church. William of Colliton, or Collompton, was appointed to a Canonry on the death of Richard Sydnor in 1534. Subject to the sanction of the Local Government Board, it has been decided to purchase the property, and thus a valuable addition will be made to the interest and attractions of the City of Exeter.

Ancient Monuments Protection Bills.

On the motion of Lord Herschell, a committee, consisting of the Duke of Northumberland, the Earl of Plymouth, the Bishop of Bristol, Lord Sheffield, and Lord Southwark, has been appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Commons to consider the Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Bill, the Ancient Monuments Protection Bill, and the Ancient Monuments Protection (No. 2) Bill.

Tattershall Castle: Recovery of the Fireplaces.

Lord Curzon of Kedleston [*H.F.*], with the assistance of a number of generous lovers of antiquity in the county of Lincoln and elsewhere, has recovered the famous carved stone fireplaces, dating from the fifteenth century, which were taken out of Tattershall Castle last year. The work of restoring the castle and its surroundings to their former condition, as far as can legitimately be done, has already been begun by Lord Curzon; and as soon as this is sufficiently advanced the fireplaces will be restored to their original position in the castle walls. It is estimated that the works at Tattershall will not be completed until next year, when Lord Curzon proposes to throw them open to the public.

Architectural Tour in France.

The Rev. Dr. West [A.], pupil of the late E. M. Barry and of Viollet-le-Duc, and author of *Gothic Architecture in England and France*, proposes to conduct an architectural tour in France during the ensuing summer, taking one of the following itineraries, or some combination of them. Rouen or Paris to be the starting point: (a) The *Caen* district, including Le Mans, Alençon, Sées, &c.; (b) The *Soissonnais* and *Beauvaisais*, including Amiens, Beauvais, Morienval, Pierrefonds, Coucy, Reims, Laon, &c.; (c) The *Ile de France*, including Mantes, Poissy, Troyes, Sens, Bourges, Orléans, and Chartres; (d) *Burgundy*—Troyes, Langres, Dijon, Auxerre, Vézelay, Nevers, Bourges, Chartres; (e) *General*—Chartres, Le Mans, Angers, Poitiers, Angoulême, Périgueux, Le Puy (?), Clermont, Bourges, Nevers, Vézelay, Dijon, Sens; (f) *Southern*—Toulouse, Cahors, Albi, Carcassonne, Narbonne; (g) *Provence*—from Dijon to Arles, and back by Le Puy, Clermont, &c. The number of the party will not exceed fifteen. Dr. West's address is Selsley Vicarage, nr. Stroud, Glos.

The Regent's Quadrant.

In the *JOURNAL* recently, attention was called to the competition instituted by the *Builder* for a façade for the Regent's Quadrant which will continue Mr. Norman Shaw's design in such a manner as may not be open to the criticisms of the retail tradesmen for whom the premises are intended. It is now announced that Messrs. Swan & Edgar, whose premises occupy a large part of the site, are prepared to take an active interest in the matter, either by giving an additional premium to those offered by the *Builder*, or "if practicable a professional position which will enable the successful competitor to put his design into material form." Particulars are given in the *Builder* for 19th April and 3rd May. Designs may be sent in up to 28th June.

Obituary.

PETER KERR, the well-known Melbourne architect, whose death is announced at an advanced age, was for many years a Fellow of the Institute, but resigned membership a few years ago, having been long retired from practice. Mr. Kerr was articled to Mr. Archibald Simpson, of Aberdeen, over seventy-three years ago, and was afterwards in the office of Mr. Geo. Fowler Jones, of York. About the end of 1845 he removed to Dunrobin Castle, Scotland, where he was engaged on the extensive additions to the Castle. On the completion of this work he came to London and entered the office of Sir Charles Barry. In 1852 he emigrated to Australia and after a brief experience of cattle-raising on the Upper Yarra returned to his profession as an architect in Melbourne, first in partnership and subsequently on his own account. His principal works included the Harbour Trust Offices, the Chinese Court of Arbitration, Port Phillip Club Hotel, and the first part of the Houses of Parlia-

ment. In 1877 he entered the Government service and was appointed by the Royal Commission of Parliament Buildings as their architect of the Houses of Parliament. Mr. Kerr had a share in designing, detailing, and carrying into execution Government House, the new Law Courts, and the Public Office. He also carried out the Registrar-General's Office, and extensive additions to the General Post Office.

EDWIN E. PINCHES, whose death occurred on the 17th May, had conducted the Preliminary Examinations of the Royal Institute for over twenty years past. Mr. Pinches was born in 1838, the son of a London schoolmaster, and took his degree in the University of London in 1857. He was engaged in educational work all his life, and was a member of the Council of the College of Preceptors for over forty years, during twenty-five of which he filled the office of Treasurer. His extensive knowledge, his ability and accuracy, and the eminently judicial quality of his mind, specially fitted him for the responsible duties of an examiner, in which capacity his services were in much request by public bodies, including the University of London, the College of Preceptors, the Joint Scholarships Board, the R.I.B.A., the Surveyors' Institution, and others.

Architects' Benevolent Society.

At the Annual General Meeting of this Society held on the 11th April, Sir Ernest George, A.R.A., in the Chair, the Annual Report of the Council was submitted as follows:—

In submitting their sixty-second annual report the Council regret that they have again to record a diminution in the amount of the Society's subscriptions. The difference is small as compared with last year, but it is significant in view of the fact that a special letter of appeal was issued by the President in October to over five thousand architects practising in the United Kingdom. The result of the appeal, although scarcely realising anticipations, increased by new or additional subscriptions the total amount received by £41. 18s. 6d., while the sum of £124. 8s. 6d. was added to the Society's capital from donations received in response to the appeal. The Council feel that the number of contributors on the Society's books (the total number of subscribers is 512) is inadequately representative of so large a profession; they are also assured that the result of advertising, while extending knowledge of the Society, leads to an insufficient return for the expense incurred. It is felt, therefore, that the subscription list must mainly rely for its support upon the efforts of individual members and upon the corporate action of the metropolitan and provincial architectural societies. In this connection, the thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Watson Fothergill, the Local Honorary Secretary of the Nottingham Society of Architects, who secured numerous fresh contributions.

During the year the sum of £1,031 was distributed in relief; £245 being paid to pensioners, while £786 was disbursed in grants among seventy-four applicants. A pension having become vacant, various applications were considered and the annuity was finally granted to the widow of an architect.

The total amount received in subscriptions was £707. 5s. 6d. (as compared with £716. 14s. received in 1910); while the amount received in donations was £296. 14s. (as compared with £109. 15s. received in 1910), including Professor Aitchison's bequest of £90. Donations were also received as follows: Sir Ernest George £20 and £4; Mr. Edgar Wood £21; Mr. Edward B. Panson £15. 15s.; Mr. Arthur Ashbridge £10. 10s.; Mr. Thomas Dinwiddy £10. 10s.; Mr. Archibald M. Dunn £10; Mr. John Belcher £5. 5s.; Mr. John Borrowman £5. 5s.; Mr. F. W. Foster £5. 5s.; Mr. Banister Fletcher £5. 5s.; Mr. Henry Lovegrove £5. 5s.; Mr. W. Hilton Nash £5. 5s.; as well as various smaller sums. With the amount carried forward from last account together with the donations received during the year the Council were enabled to increase the Society's investments by the purchase of £500 Queensland 3% Inscribed Stock at a cost of £424. 11s. 6d.

At the beginning of the present year, the family of the late Mr. John T. Christopher presented, through Mr. Freville Christopher, £105 New South Wales 3½% Inscribed Stock in memory of their father, who was himself a liberal benefactor of the Society.

It is with great regret that the Council have to record the death of Mr. William Glover, and Mr. T. M. Rickman, the two Vice-Presidents of the Society. Mr. Rickman had been a subscriber since 1872; he served on the Council on many occasions, and always took an unfailing interest in its work. The association of Mr. Glover was more recent, but since he came to live in the South of England he took an active part in the progress of the Society, generously contributing himself and influencing the contributions of others, greatly to the advantage of both income and capital.

The following, being the five senior members, retire by rotation from the Council: Mr. Charles Blomfield, Mr. John Borrowman, Mr. C. R. Baker King, Sir Charles Nicholson, and Mr. G. E. Bond. To fill the vacancies caused by these retirements the Council have the pleasure to nominate Mr. Henry Lovegrove, Mr. E. Arden Minty, Mr. Rowland Plumbé, Mr. William Woodward, and the President of the Society of Architects.*

The Council have the pleasure to nominate Mr. H. L. Florence for election as Vice-President.*

The thanks of the Society are due to the Royal Institute of British Architects for office accommodation and to the staff of the Institute for

assistance, always cordially rendered, in any matter connected with the Society.

The Report was adopted, and the Chairman announced a bequest to the Society of £200 from Mr. Thomas M. Rickman, and donations of £15 from the Society of Architects and £3 3s. from Mr. C. H. Löhr.

THE EXAMINATIONS.

The Final Examination: Alternative Problems in Design.

Under the new scheme of Testimonies of Study for the Final Examination* six alternative Problems in Design are to be set by the Board of Architectural Education each year, and candidates must submit designs in answer to at least four of the problems. The problems will be published twice a year, three sets in January and three in July. Candidates for the examinations in November next may avail themselves of the new scheme, but after next year it will be compulsory on all candidates. Several Students entering for the Final next November are taking advantage of the new scheme and have sent in designs. Appended are the problems set and the names of the Students whose work has satisfied the Board:—

*Subject I. (a).—(A large Monument to commemorate King Alfred's Refounding of London).—*Messrs. H. A. Dod, Hal Harper, Ernest Prestwich, H. C. Bradshaw.

*Subject I. (b).—(A Terrace of Five Houses).—*Messrs. R. F. Dodd, Walter E. Woodin, S. Stevenson Jones, W. Harding Thompson.

*Subject II. (a).—(A large Monument to an Explorer).—*Messrs. H. Lidbetter, R. S. Dixon, F. O. Laurence, F. A. Broadhead, R. Duckett, E. F. Bothwell, C. M. McLachlan, W. E. Woodin, R. A. Barber, J. O. Cheadle.

*Subject II. (b).—(A Cloister with External Entrance Gateway or Tower to a Collegiate Building).—*Messrs. H. A. Dod, H. C. Bradshaw, E. Prestwich.

COMPETITIONS.

King's Heath Baths Competition, Birmingham.

The Council of the Birmingham Architectural Association have addressed a letter to the promoters of this competition objecting to clause 4 of the Conditions, which reserves to the promoters the right to appoint an independent assessor or assessors, and urging that the usual course followed in public competitions of importance should be observed—viz. that the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects be requested to nominate an assessor. Meanwhile the Council have circularised the members of their Association asking them to abstain from competing until the offending clause has been amended.

* These gentlemen were duly elected, and Mr. W. Hilton Nash was re-elected Hon. Treasurer and Mr. Percivall Curry, Hon. Secretary.

* JOURNAL, 13th January 1912, p. 191.

REVIEWS.

SMALL WATER SUPPLIES.

Small Water Supplies. Being a Practical Treatise on the Methods of Collecting, Storing, and Conveying Water for Domestic Use in large Country Mansions, Estates, and small Villages and Farms. For the use of Engineers, Estate Agents, and Owners of Property. By F. Noel Taylor. 8s. Lond. 1911. 6s. net. [B. T. Batsford, 94 High Holborn, W.C.]

This work, consisting of 162 pages of clear print on good paper, and containing 126 well-produced and useful illustrations, is a short, compact, and very practical book. It supplies useful data, without incorporating lengthy descriptions of extraneous matter. Its perusal should prove very useful for that section of the profession engaged in arranging water supplies in the more rural areas where no public company's water is available.

The first chapter is devoted to "Properties of Water and Sources of Supply." It seems somewhat strange that the author should advocate the calling-in of a water diviner when in doubt as to the existence of water, but there may still be some who retain belief in the diviner's powers. But on the same page the author suggests calling in a water expert before commencing any engineering work. The latter most certainly appears to be the more reliable course. Where abundant river water of poor quality is available, the author advocates sinking a well for drinking water, the former raised by mechanical power, the latter by hand pump only—no house connection being made for this latter supply, and one tap only being supplied for river water inside the house. This is advocated in order to make servants discern between the two supplies, and allows of no confusion. But servants are human, and where they have of necessity to go outside the house in all weathers and pump all potable water, a mistake may easily be made either through laziness or wilfulness in order to save the little hand labour and inconvenience necessary—and the drinking water may be drawn from the tap, with anything but pleasant results (if not danger) to the consumers.

Chapter ii.—"Wells and Well Sinking"—is very practically written and illustrated, and enables the architect of ordinary intelligence to sink either an artesian or an open well in any strata in ordinary circumstances, and the various cutting and removal tools are clearly illustrated for the particular strata to be dealt with.

In chapter iii.—"Flow of Water in Pipes and Channels," the reader is at once informed that the author is going over ground previously covered by other writers, but the aim of the present work has been to condense the information so as to avoid all unnecessary calculations, and only those points interesting or essential to the architect who desires to instal a water scheme have been included. This

has been faithfully and very practically carried out, and must be appreciated by those perusing the book.

"Pumping Water" forms chapter iv. This chapter belongs almost exclusively to the engineer. It deals fully with the various types of pumps, and the different powers for working them. It is more interesting than useful to the general architect, but a very sound piece of advice is given on page 103 in regard to the selection of engines: "Never select an engine which is just equal or barely equal to the required duty." This first economy is a frequent source of trouble, and it cannot be too well impressed upon those selecting an engine to ascertain that it is of such power as to be able to perform its work comfortably. An engine, like a horse, or a human being, becomes fatigued if overstrained, and constant repairs, inconvenience, and needless expense are the result.

Chapter v., dealing with "Storage and Distribution," gives full scope for the architect who is desirous of working out formulae for the various kinds of retaining walls, tanks, and reinforced-concrete water-holders; but the calculations are simplified as far as possible, and anyone with an ordinary knowledge of mathematics can follow them without embarrassment; and although very largely a compilation yet those selected are concise and useful. The calculations gone into for the construction of a ferro-concrete water tank to hold 6,750 gallons (fig. 97) are quite up to date, and at the same time they deal with a most inexpensive and efficient method for water storage. Following the formulae, some very useful illustrations of water filtration and storage reservoirs are given, and the arrangements of the pipes for a model mansion are described and illustrated. This chapter is practical throughout, and all superfluities have been omitted.

Appendix I. discusses the cause of noises which occur in service pipes and their remedies.

Appendix II. supplies more detailed information on the method of sinking an Abyssinian tube.

On the first page the author mentions in detail the right and the wrong way of taking samples of water for analytical purposes, but he fails to inform his readers on one important point, that is, all samples should be drawn from under the surface at about one-third the depth of the water.

On page 11 very useful mention is made of the destructive effect of some waters on lead and iron pipes. This is a point which should call for more consideration from Local Authorities possessing waterworks. It is by no means uncommon for one authority to compel the use of lead pipes in their by-laws, whilst another authority, with water of a similar nature, restrict the pipes to iron.

The strut in fig. 45 is figured 1 inch by 7 inches, but it is shown by calculation to be 12 inches by 7 inches.

The salient feature of the work is its conciseness. The busy architect who has no time to waste in

theorising on the various sciences and side issues which generally cluster about a treatise of this kind can here find information clearly and briefly given.

HAROLD GRIFFITHS [A.].

CORRESPONDENCE.

Pierre Puget.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—Professor Blomfield raises an interesting point when he questions the identity of Puget the sculptor and architect with the designer of Montagu House. The name of the latter is given by his various biographers a wide latitude of spelling. De Piles, for instance (*Art of Painting*, 1754), calls him Pughet, and other variants are Pujet, Pougey, and Pouget. It is under the latter form that he appears in Lance's *Dictionnaire des architectes français*.

Neither Lance nor Professor Blomfield quite realises that though a Montagu House was, as they say, built in 1678, it was from the designs not of Puget but of an Englishman. This we learn from Evelyn's "Diary," 5th November 1679:—"To see Mr. Montagu's new palace, near Bloomsbury, built by our [i.e. the Royal Society's] curator, Mr. Hooke." Under date October 10, 1683, Evelyn refers to a second visit, and describes at some length the building and its ceilings by Verrio and paintings by Holbein. But on 19th January 1686 he records: "This night was burnt to the ground my Lord Montagu's Palace in Bloomsbury." We learn also from Ellis's "Letters": "Whitehall, the 21st January 1685-6—On Wednesday, at one in the morning a sad fire happened at Montagu House, in Bloomsbury." Lady Rachel Russell describes the destruction of the house in a letter dated 20th January 1685. We thus have, beyond dispute, a date immediately preceding the building of the second Montagu House, admittedly from the designs of Puget. It undoubtedly took place, as Britton and Pugin state (*Public Buildings of London*, vol. ii. page 55), "about 1687." In his edition of Cunningham (1891, vol. ii. page 555) Mr. Wheatly says, "Pierre Puget or Poughet was sent from France to design the second Montagu House." Seeing then from Evelyn's and other evidence that the second Montagu House can only have been commenced after 1686, the carving of the Versailles Milo in 1678, referred to by Professor Blomfield, can hardly have interfered with Puget's acting as architect for the new building.

It is furthermore difficult to avoid recognising a too-extraordinary coincidence in the theory that a Puget and "a certain Pouget or Poughet" existed side by side, and both architects of eminence. For we have to imagine the latter of sufficient importance for his selection to carry out an impor-

tant building in a foreign country, and yet an architect whose record is confined, so far as we know, to this one piece of work alone.

With regard to Mr. Gotch's communication in the reprinted Paper it seems more than likely that the arabesque designs (of one of which, as he says, he gave an illustration in his paper on the Smithson drawings) are by Puget. Comparison between this illustration and the signed drawing in the Institute Library show very strongly marked resemblances in style and execution. It is quite conceivable that the collector, or at all events arranger, of the Smithson drawings, who mounted them, as Mr. Gotch says, in "the second decade of the eighteenth century," approached Puget's curiously-Protean name phonetically, and hence noted the drawing as being by "Mr. Boujet."

Referring to Mr. Kershaw's letter, no one who makes use of the Institute Library can fail to recognise how much it owes to the late Wyatt Papworth's constant and scholarly interest. Acknowledgment of his labours and of those of some others, and of the large and special donations by which we have benefited, would perhaps be more fittingly made when, as I suggested, the Library as a whole and more particularly its books are made the subject of what I hope will some day form a highly useful and interesting Paper.—Yours faithfully,

C. HARRISON TOWNSEND [F.].

Zinc White v. White Lead.

46 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.: 15th May 1912.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—In the interests of workmen who are house-painters let us hope that all architects and builders will read Mr. A. S. Jennings' valuable paper published in your last issue as to the effects of white lead paint on the workman's health. It was the knowledge of the fact that several men on my works suffered from what is popularly known as "painters' colic" which led me, thirty years ago, to discover and specify for all interior use the zinc pigment known as "Charlton White." In one house wholly decorated with this body which I visited nearly twenty years later the work was almost as good as when executed. I did not venture to use it externally, not being sure whether it would stand great heat and cold, and considering that the workmen would not suffer so much by using lead paint in the open. For many years I have ceased to struggle against the inveterate prejudice of the builders and decorators who maintained that their men did not suffer from lead poisoning, that zinc white did not cover so well, and that the men objected to using it. The facts, however, which Mr. Jennings gives in his paper, especially as to the prevalence and effects of this poison, as to the rate of insurance under the Employers' Liability Act, and as to Continental experience and legislation, should stimulate us to act promptly in favour of the use of some equally

effective and non-poisonous base for protective and decorative paintwork.—Yours faithfully,

W. H. SETH-SMITH [F.].

The Decadence of English Architecture (p. 495).

St. Moritz, Eastbourne : 17th May 1912.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—It is not surprising that two such observant travellers as Messrs. Hubbard and Cross should return obsessed with the traditions of Renaissance architecture as developed in France. As Englishmen they are naturally impressed with the curriculum of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts and the resultant work of the architects trained there, and as Englishmen they forthwith deprecate both the architectural schools in England and the men trained here.

Much is to be said in favour of the eight or ten years' course required at the Beaux-Arts, and much is to be said against it. Its students are so dominated by the principles of Vignola and the traditional methods that originality of thought is dwarfed. However excellent the planning may be, the façades imported here are generally developments of the Rue de Rivoli or the Grands Boulevards, and it is this that Messrs. Hubbard and Cross greet so cordially upon their return home! The examples they cite are no exception to the usual monotony of Paris street architecture. They do not show the originality of conception which is to be found in many recent interesting examples of our native talent.

How funny it is that the British traveller is always inclined to scoff at his own countrymen, whereas at the ateliers in Paris they scoffed at the men for their lack of courage in not attempting something original in London, where they had the opportunity, free from the trammels of their patrons and academic environment!

Yours faithfully,

R. GOULBURN LOVELL [A.].

The A.A. Schools and the Architectural Museum.

Mr. H. Austen Hall [A.], Hon. Secretary of the Architectural Association, asks space for the following letter which he had addressed to the Editor of the *Building News* :—

SIR,—I am completely in agreement with the views expressed in Mr. Maurice Adams' letter on this subject in your issue of last week.

The Council of the Architectural Association has for many years been primarily concerned with educational matters, and is at the present moment maturing a scheme of a three years' course instead of the two years' course in the Day School. Students who take the third year's will concern themselves principally with advanced design of a monumental nature, and will then be encouraged to go on to the Academy Schools for a continuation of the work begun by the Association. This has been decided upon as the definite policy of the Architectural Association Schools in the future, and the Council of the Royal Academy has extended practical encouragement to the Architectural Association students who are qualified to go to the Royal Academy.

The comprehensiveness and breadth of outlook in artistic matters for which the Academy stands, and the advantage to architectural students of associating with painters and sculptors, have been fully realised. The prestige of the Royal Academy, and the glories of its Gold Medal, will still remain the Mecca of the ambitious student, and it concerns us to give the necessary preparatory education in a thorough manner.

The *Building News* refers to a new departure closely allied to the well-being of the School, viz. the exhibition of half-inch detail drawings and photographs of executed works, which closed on Saturday last. The students are enabled to see contemporary work by our leading men in a form which permits of intelligent study and observation. An Exhibition Committee has been formed, and it is hoped to hold a succession of really educational loan collections of modern work to supplement the training given in the Schools.

Recent French and German architecture will alternate with English work, and our students will not fail to form their own opinions on the "Decadence of English Architecture." Certainly until the points of "decadence" are located, and the comparative merits of English and foreign work clearly defined, all this depressing talk on the subject will not lead us anywhere. We believe, with a constant and painstaking system of comparisons, in the manner referred to, that the Association will be taking the first really practical steps towards the realisation of our position.

Mr. Maurice Adams' fears for the Architectural Museum are without foundation. The Museum is left to us with certain conditions attaching to it, and our intentions are not to override these conditions, but rather to develop and add to the collections under our care from time to time, so that our students may have within their doors a comprehensive collection of casts showing the architectural development of this country and others.

There is no doubt that the majority of the casts would be more suitably housed in reserve collections, because many of them are useless to the student in their present crowded state, but that cannot come about until the building can be adapted for that purpose.

Mr. Maurice Adams is an old friend of architectural education, and his views command respect, and it is with great pleasure that I am able to state a policy so completely in accord with his own suggestions. It is not to the Beaux-Arts that we need look, but to ourselves. The sympathetic support of the whole profession and the energy of the students are the only means wherewith to fight "Decadence" in any form.

We are bound to fall short of the ideal state in our education until we receive the Government aid upon which architecture has such just claims, but there are things we can do among ourselves that come first, and prepare the way.—Yours faithfully,

H. AUSTEN HALL,

Hon. Sec. Architectural Association.

Architectural Education.

University of London : University College.

22nd May 1912.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—Messrs. Hubbard and Cross naturally cannot be expected to know what developments are contemplated by the different architectural schools in this country, and certain statements in the letter from them which is published in the *JOURNAL* of the 11th inst. leave me considerably in doubt as to whether they are acquainted with the work the schools are doing at present.

In view of these statements it would be interesting to know whether they have visited any of the architectural schools in this country, and, if so, when were their visits paid and to which schools?

Yours faithfully,

F. M. SIMPSON [F.].

The Institute and Registration.

St. Moritz, Eastbourne: 17th May 1912.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.

SIR.—After all the cavilling and fault-finding of late, how refreshing to read in your last issue the letter from Mr. W. H. Seth-Smith! Of course the experimental procedure on the part of the Council was a wise and prudent step. It has helped forward registration many years.

Much better that the Institute and the Society should remain two separate bodies; each has its province and its work in advancing the interests of the profession. Registration can never be secured without the co-operation of both these and other bodies. The Council is to be warmly commended for opening the doors and paving the way for a Bill to be carried forward another step. Many difficulties have yet to be encountered, but instead of nagging among ourselves let us co-operate with our colleagues with the consideration and courtesy that it is understood one professional man should show to another.—Yours faithfully,

R. GOULBURN LOVELL [A.].

Competitions.

21st May 1912.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR.—In the R.I.B.A. KALENDAR there are given the Regulations governing Architectural Competitions, and as certain of these are stated to be "essential" one therefore presumes they must be complied with by promoters before members of the Institute can be allowed to compete. These Regulations can be read by all, and are clear enough to be understood by all. In any public competition, therefore, where the conditions of the promoters do not comply with these Regulations, surely all members of the Institute should refrain from drawing even so much as a line until such time as the conditions are revised, and certainly in any negotiations that may be carried on with a view to such revision one would expect the Institute to insist that the necessary revision should be made in reasonable time, and thus enable all members to compete who may desire to do so.

In a recent competition advertised in the press the conditions issued by the promoters were not in accordance with the R.I.B.A. Regulations, but about three days before the date for plans to be sent in, it was stated that those Regulations had, after negotiations with the R.I.B.A., been agreed to by the promoters, and that the President had accordingly appointed an Assessor. It is obvious, therefore, that if any members of the Institute sent

in drawings they must have been working upon them before the conditions were altered, or at any rate before the fact of such alteration was made public, and this would appear very much like disloyalty to the Institute on the part of such members.

And what can be said for the Institute itself when an Assessor is actually appointed as judge in a competition from which many members, because of their adherence to the R.I.B.A. Regulations, have been shut out, apparently owing to the lack of foresight and energy of those at headquarters to whom the members naturally look for guidance in such matters? The least one can say is that it cannot tend to encourage loyalty to the R.I.B.A. on the part of its members, and this is a matter for the deepest regret.—Yours faithfully,

HENRY W. COUSSENS [A.].

MINUTES. XIV.

At the Fourteenth General Meeting of the Session 1911-12, held Monday, 20th May 1912, at 8.30 p.m.—Present: Mr. Leonard Stokes, *President*, in the Chair; 34 Fellows (including 16 members of the Council), 42 Associates (including 3 members of the Council), 6 Licentiates, and several visitors—the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read and signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of Peter Kerr, of Melbourne, for many years a Fellow of the Institute, but recently retired; Henry Shackleton, *Associate*, elected 1906; Ernest Theodore Felgate, *Licentiate*.

The following candidates, being found eligible and qualified according to the Charter and By-laws, were nominated for election—viz.: As FELLOWS (3): Ernest Gladstone Allen [A. 1904]; Walter Pott [A. 1888]; Haydn Parke Roberts [A. 1907], Worthing. As ASSOCIATES* (12): Henry Humbley Archer, P.A.S.I. [S. 1910], Windsor; Herbert John Leslie Barefoot [S. 1909]; Royston John Keith Harris [Colonial Examination July 1911], Sydney, N.S.W.; John Burton Healing [S. 1909], Leicester; Philip Dalton Hepworth [S. 1910]; Cecil Howard Lay [S. 1909], Saxmundham; Robert Dewar Nicol [Special Examination], Calcutta; Geoffrey Owen [S. 1909], Warrington; Reginald Shears [S. 1909]; William Bernard Stedman [S. 1908], Margate; Russell Stockton [S. 1906], Stockport; Charles Voysey [S. 1909].

A Paper on RECENT UNIVERSITY ARCHITECTURE IN THE UNITED STATES having been read by Mr. R. A. Cram, Litt.D., F.A.I.A., F.R.G.S., and illustrated by a numerous series of lantern slides specially provided by Mr. Cram, on the motion of Mr. Edward Warren, F.S.A. [F.], seconded by Sir Aston Webb, C.B., C.V.O., R.A. [F.], a vote of thanks was passed to him by acclamation.

Further, the meeting testified its cordial appreciation and thanks for the many courtesies bestowed upon the President of the Royal Institute by the American architects during his recent visit to the United States.

The proceedings closed and the meeting separated at 10.20 p.m.

* Except where otherwise stated, all the candidates passed the qualifying examination last November.

